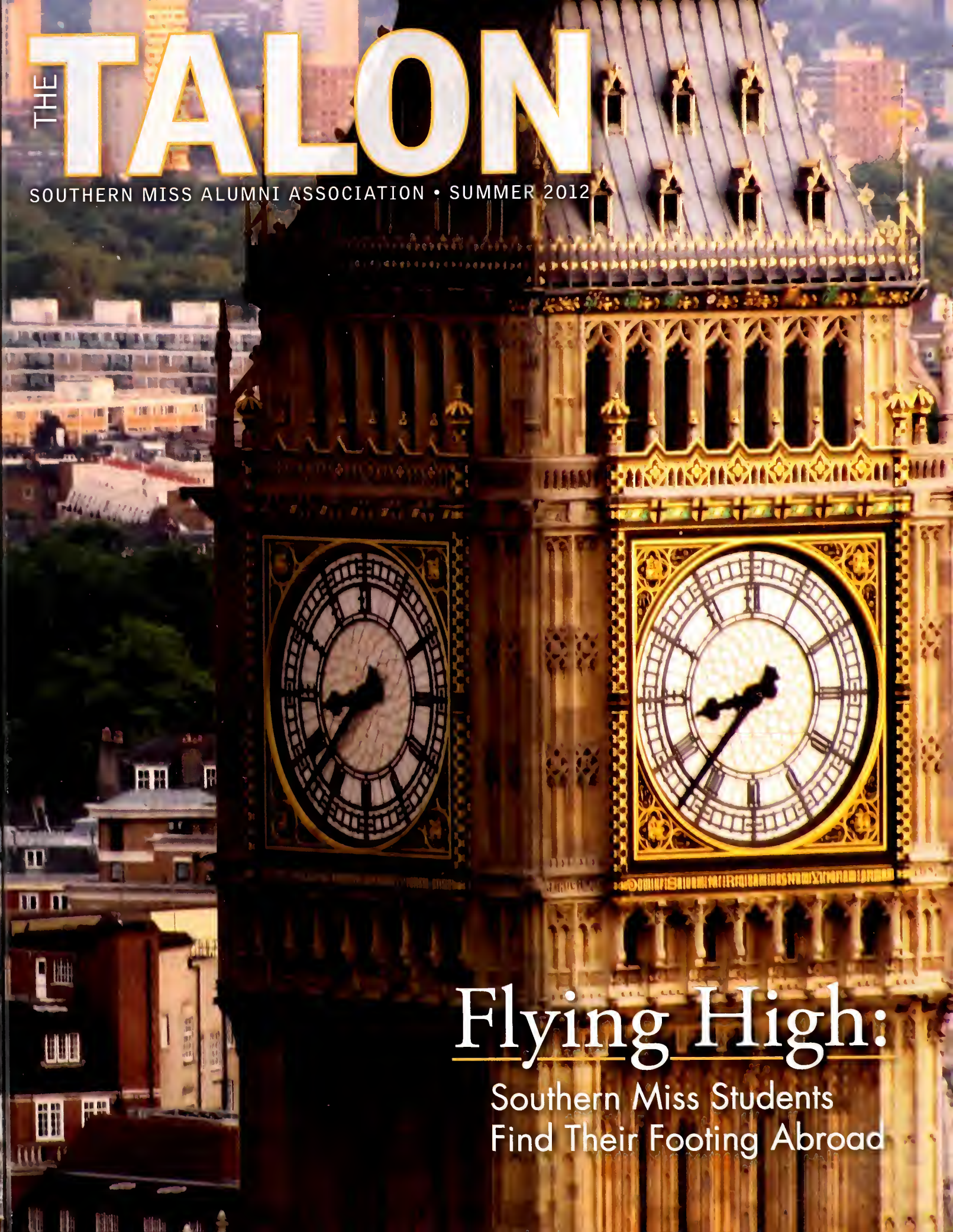
THE TALON

SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION • SUMMER 2012



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Sandi**Patty**
JUNE 23

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THE TALON

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34 | FLYING HIGH: SOUTHERN MISS STUDENTS FIND THEIR FOOTING ABROAD

With scores of study-abroad programs available to students, The University of Southern Mississippi has long served and been recognized as a leader in international education. The Compass Program, a brand new paradigm program that encompasses affordable mobile learning, is just one of the latest opportunities available for Southern Miss students.

38 | EDUCATION HAS NO BORDERS: BANGLA-DASH

Chris Hesse '98, a former baseball player at The University of Southern Mississippi, moved to Bangladesh after accepting a position as a physical education teacher. After seeing the need for education during his time in South Asia, he partnered with colleague Marc Favre to create Bangla-Dash, a fundraising campaign based around a 180-mile run to help at least four schools in and around Dhaka. The men completed the run on April 20, and raised $20,000 along the way.

40 | COASTAL CREATIVITY

Dana Wittmann '81, a Long Beach, Miss., native, created a pottery line that has become nationally distributed. Nautically inspired, Dana Wittmann Designs can be found in more than 500 retail stores in the United States and the Virgin Islands. With the addition of a new dragonfly line debuting in the fall of 2012 and a new canvas line, multiple projects are in the works for this Gulf Coast artist.

46 | TWO MOST OUTSTANDING FRESHMEN

Bridget Page and Gavin Snyder were awarded the two 2012 Most Outstanding Freshmen Awards at the March 30, Founders' Day ceremony. The award strives to distinguish students who have positively impacted campus early in their collegiate careers. Page, a Pearl, Miss., native, and Snyder, a Mobile, Ala., native, both share a passion for involvement and success.

FRONT COVER: THE GREAT BELL OF THE CLOCK AT THE NORTH END OF THE PALACE OF WESTMINSTER IN LONDON, ALSO KNOWN AS "BIG BEN." PHOTO BY KYNDEL EDENS '11 FROM MOBILE, ALA., WHO PARTICIPATED IN THE BRITISH STUDIES PROGRAM DURING THE SUMMER OF 2010, WHERE SHE SPENT ONE MONTH LIVING AND LEARNING IN CENTRAL LONDON.

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Southern Miss is Soaring to New Heights!

The 2011-12 school year was a benchmark year for Southern Miss. The accomplishments of our students and faculty are taking us to new heights and our campuses are growing daily.

- Ground has been broken on Scianna Hall, the new **$33 million College of Business Building.** In addition, the College of Business has again appeared on the *U.S. News and World Report's* list of top business schools in the country.
- **Great things are happening at the Gulf Park campus** in Long Beach as construction has begun on two historic restoration projects, two renovations and one new construction project.
- The Southern Miss men's athletic program has been honored with the prestigious Hallbrook Award for having the **highest graduation rate among Mississippi's public universities** for the eighth-consecutive time.
- The Mississippi Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning (IHL) approved a proposal to restore the **College of Nursing** at The University of Southern Mississippi. In addition, Southern Miss will offer the **state's first Nurse Anesthesia Program** beginning in January of 2013.

Scan this code with your smart phone to learn more about the great things happening at Southern Miss and for information on how to join the Alumni Association.

Join today and help us continue to take Southern Miss to the Top!

It has been my very special privilege to serve as 2011-12 president of the Southern Miss Alumni Association. It has afforded me a unique chance to connect with so many friends and supporters of Southern Miss. Wherever I go - locally, regionally, nationally or internationally—Southern Miss connections are not far away. One clear example of that connection was evident last summer. A friend from Germany, a former Southern Miss student, was attending a professional meeting in Washington, D.C. Sporting our Southern Miss attire at the U.S. Capitol, we were noticed by a few folks that happened to be from Mississippi. As you might imagine, we started a conversation and discovered their son had been a Southern Miss athlete. We all shared our cherished Southern Miss memories. This incidental meeting of diverse Southern Miss devotees demonstrates so much about our beloved institution. Regardless of our backgrounds (Niederkirchen, Germany, or Prentiss, Miss.) or our current station in life, or individual aspirations, each of us demonstrated immense pride in what Southern Miss had contributed personally and professionally.

For 102 years, Southern Miss has brought together people from around the planet to study, grow, connect and to generally expand their horizons. Among my most cherished experiences as part of the Southern Miss family are those involving increased engagement by our students in the international arena. For many years I led student groups in marketing and management as part of our acclaimed British Studies Program in London. Not once did a student leave that experience without a deeper appreciation for the world beyond the U.S., a stronger sense of belonging to a broader cause or just a different feeling about people and places once unfamiliar. These transformative influences embody the core of the glue that binds us as Southern Miss friends and alumni.

As we move forward as a University, we should explore new and more creative ways of connecting Southern Miss to the world. The Alumni Association has played a monumental role in ensuring the quality of connections across generations and continents. As Southern Miss prepares for a new era of executive leadership, the Alumni Association is especially indebted to President Martha Saunders for her colossal role in nurturing connections across communities, cultures, disciplines and philosophical divides. Her gifted leadership underscores the value of rich connections in forging a great university.

As I transition to the next phase of service to the Southern Miss family, I remain deeply grateful for the opportunities provided to me as president of the Southern Miss Alumni Association. It has been a distinct pleasure to work with Jerry DeFatta, executive director, the hardworking Board of Directors, and the unbelievably talented and committed Alumni Association staff members. You have made a really difficult task a very positive leadership experience. As I ponder our past, experience the present, and anticipate great things in our future, I can say with supreme confidence—"Southern Miss to the Top!"

Alvin J. Williams
President

AT SOUTHERN MISS, WE CONDUCT TRANSFORMATIVE RESEARCH TO DISCOVER WHAT IS POSSIBLE.

Polymer scientist Dr. Marek Urban and his team from the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials have introduced a new and unusual type of plastic material that turns red or "bleeds" when damaged. Once exposed to sunlight or a temperature change, the plastic material repairs itself almost immediately. This "self-healing plastic" is an inventive solution for smartphones, car bodies, airplanes, space shuttles and even battlefield weapon systems.

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THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI.

University of Southern Mississippi President Saunders Stepping Down

Dr. Martha Saunders

Dr. Martha Saunders, president of The University of Southern Mississippi, announced April 27 that she is stepping down from that position effective June 30, 2012. She will return to the classroom as a member of the faculty at Southern Miss Gulf Coast this fall.

Building on a distinguished academic career that established her as an expert in communication studies and a respected leader of colleges and universities, the Southern Miss alumna became president in May 2007. With guidance from University constituents, she quickly determined four areas of strategic focus for her alma mater—establishing a climate for academic success, enhancing connections with the community, creating a culture of healthy minds, bodies and campuses, and enhancing and expanding the University's national profile.

Today, a fourth-straight record freshman class has boosted enrollment to a historic level, the USM Foundation is poised to shatter its previous record for annual gifts and commitments in fiscal year 2012, and the University's Gulf Coast operations are successfully recovering from Hurricane Katrina.

Saunders' accomplishments both individually and collectively as the University's leader are many. She guided the University's Centennial Celebration in 2010, which resulted in a Silver Anvil Award from the Public Relations Society of America. The honor, the highest given for public relations practices, was a first for the University and the second for Saunders, who added a Stevie Award for Women in Business in 2011. Also in 2010, she was the first university president to appoint an oil spill response team, and Southern Miss researchers continue to lead efforts studying the effects of the spill two years later.

Under her leadership, the University was ranked among the nation's Top 20 Most Popular Universities by *U.S. News & World Report* in 2011, and is recognized as one of only two Green Colleges in the state by the *Princeton Review*. In addition, over the course of her presidency more than $250 million in facility improvements have been realized or have entered the planning stages.

The president also positioned the University to better address the needs of the state, region and country. While programs in polymer science, marine science, education and others continue to attract the best and brightest minds to Southern Miss, the University's College of Business has been ranked among the nation's top 15 percent of business schools for two consecutive years by *U.S. News & World Report*, and is poised for greater success with the planned construction of Scianna Hall, a $33-million proposed facility on the Hattiesburg campus. With Saunders' backing, the profile of the University's School of Nursing also received a boost this month, when plans to elevate its status to a degree-granting college were approved by the IHL Board.

IHL Board taps Aubrey Lucas to serve as Interim President

Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas

Returning to familiar territory, Dr. Aubrey K. Lucas has been selected to serve as the interim president for The University of Southern Mississippi, the Board of Trustees of State Institutions of Higher Learning announced on May 1.

Lucas will fill the void that was created when Southern Miss President Martha Saunders announced she would be stepping down from her position, effective June 30.

Lucas is President Emeritus and Professor of Higher Education at Southern Miss, where he served for 22 years as President. He had previously served as President of Delta State University for four years. He also served as Interim Commissioner of Higher Education from October 2008 until July 2009.

Dr. Lucas earned his B.S. and M.A. degrees from Southern Miss and received his Ph.D. degree from Florida State University. Mississippi College awarded him an honorary Doctor of Humane Letters degree.

Lucas began transitioning into the role May 2, and his term as Interim President begins on July 1.

National Business Education Association Names Fisher Teacher of the Year

Dr. Diane Fisher

Dr. Diane Fisher, associate dean of the College of Education and Psychology and an associate professor of business technology at The University of Southern Mississippi, was honored as the 2012 Collegiate Teacher of the Year by the National Business Education Association at its annual convention in Boston April 3-7. The award was presented in recognition of outstanding contributions in teaching business.

Fisher is currently serving as President of the National Association for Business Teacher Educators (NABTE), a division of the National Business Education Association. She was also awarded the 2011 Collegiate Teacher of the Year by The Southern Business Education Association at its annual convention in Orlando, Fla. last October.

Among her other honors, Fisher received the Aubrey K. Lucas and Ella Ginn Lucas Endowment for Faculty Excellence Award in 2008 from Southern Miss and the University Business Educator of the Year Award from the Mississippi Business Education Association in 2006.

Fisher is the author of several publications and has given numerous presentations at state, regional, and national conferences. She is also a recent past president of the Mississippi Business Education Association and served as editor of the *Delta Pi Epsilon Journal* in 2010-11.

Southern Miss Professor Named POLY Fellow by American Chemical Society

Dr. Charles L. McCormick

University of Southern Mississippi Professor Charles L. McCormick was named a POLY Fellow at the 243rd meeting of the American Chemical Society.

McCormick was honored for "outstanding achievements in and contributions to polymer science." McCormick, who has authored more than 270 technical manuscripts and has mentored 50 doctoral and 30 BS students, including three National Science Foundation Fellows and three Goldwater Scholars, is internationally recognized for research in the synthesis of water-soluble polymers with applications in energy, remediation and medicine.

For example, in the rapidly advancing field of nanomedicine, McCormick and students have dedicated their efforts toward the development of polymer/drug complexes that specifically target and destroy cancer cells.

Southern Miss Celebrates 100th Birthday of Hattiesburg Hall

Southern Miss celebrated the 100th birthday of Hattiesburg Hall on April 12.

Administrators, faculty, staff and students at The University of Southern Mississippi commemorated the 100th anniversary of Hattiesburg Hall's opening with a special birthday celebration on April 12.

Hattiesburg Hall, the University's oldest residence hall, was originally a women's dormitory when the school opened in 1912. During that time it also housed the College Clinic. Today, the facility houses upper-class male students with a grade-point-average of 2.8 or higher.

The birthday celebration included the unveiling of an original plaque discovered recently by maintenance workers.

Architect R.H. Hunt of Chattanooga, Tenn., designed the building and I.C. Garber served as the general contractor. With a total gross area of 26,475 square feet, the three-story facility was constructed at a cost of $111,000.

Moser Named Dean of Southern Miss College of Arts & Letters

Dr. Steven Moser

Longtime faculty member and senior associate dean Dr. Steven Moser has been named the new dean of the College of Arts & Letters at The University of Southern Mississippi. Moser has been serving as interim dean since May of last year.

Following a national search, Moser emerged as the top choice to replace Dr. Denise von Herrmann, who left Southern Miss last spring to take the provost position at Oglethorpe University. Moser's elevation to dean will be effective July 1.

Moser has spent the past year highlighting the standard of excellence demonstrated by the faculty and exemplary accomplishments of students within the College of Arts & Letters.

Before joining the faculty in the School of Music in 1990, Moser was the marching band director and music education instructor in the School of Music at Texas Christian University in Fort Worth. Moser is a specialist in instrumental conducting and a former conductor of the Symphonic Winds and director of the Pride of Mississippi Marching Band.

Previously serving as Senior Associate Dean in the College of Arts and Letters, Moser is a 2007 fellow of Harvard's Graduate School of Education, Management Development Program and has served in various leadership roles at Southern Miss since 2002.

Franks Nears Half-Century Mark in Marine and Fisheries Research at GCRL

Jim Franks

Jim Franks first came to The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) in the summer of 1963 to participate in an undergraduate marine ichthyology course. Some 50 years later, Franks has become one of the most recognized and recognizable scientists at GCRL. He puts a face to the name with his presence at local fishing tournaments and is always eager to lend a hand and an ear to the general public for all things marine.

Franks is the second GCRL scientist to be featured in a series of in-depth biographies of influential scientists from GCRL who are retiring or nearing retirement. The series, "Pioneers in Marine and Fisheries Research at the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory" seeks to chronicle their professional careers documenting their accomplishments and focusing on some of the important issues they have encountered. Especially crucial was the desire to capture their thoughts and concerns over current issues in the marine and environmental sciences.

This series of profiles will be expanded during 2012. Tom McIlwain was the first honoree.

As a fisheries biologist, Franks has for the past 35 years studied such offshore fishes as cobia, tuna, billfishes and sharks conducting groundbreaking research on *Sargassum*, an offshore essential habitat for many species of fish. Since the late 1990s, he and his colleagues at GCRL have been engaged in the research of large pelagic fishes in the Gulf of Mexico, considering the ecological and economical importance of such species as yellowfin tuna, wahoo, blue marlin, whale sharks and the iconic bluefin tuna.

Princeton Review Lists Southern Miss Among Nation's Green Colleges

Haley McMinn serves as manager of Sustainability at Southern Miss.

An ongoing commitment to sustainability has landed The University of Southern Mississippi among the nation's most environmentally responsible "green colleges" as designated by The Princeton Review.

Southern Miss joins the University of Mississippi as the state's only colleges to receive this prestigious recognition.

The Princeton Review's annual guide profiles 322 institutions of higher education in the United States and Canada that demonstrate notable commitments to sustainability in their academic offerings, campus infrastructure, activities and career preparation.

"It is a great honor to be listed on the 2012 Princeton Review's list of green colleges. This recognition validates our efforts to make Southern Miss a sustainable environment and culture," said Haley McMinn, manager of Sustainability at Southern Miss. "It is our goal to be a model of sustainable thought and practice within our state and region."

McMinn stresses that Southern Miss is "absolutely progressing in the right direction" through continued energy management practices, educational outreach programming, and dedication to developing strong partnerships, both on and off the Hattiesburg campus.

The Princeton Review chose the 322 schools based on a survey it conducted in 2011 of hundreds of colleges across the U.S. and Canada to tally its annual "Green Rating" scores. The survey asked administrators more than 50 questions about their institution's sustainability-related policies, practices and programs. Green ratings for 768 institutions were tallied last summer. The 322 schools recognized in the guide received scores of 83 or above in that assessment.

Big Event Volunteers Spread Community Service Among Gulf Coast

Volunteers for The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast's Big Event, a University-wide community service project, spent their Saturday among several sites on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. With nearly 70 volunteers participating in various projects, the Big Event was a big success in spreading community service awareness.

University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast students Mariah Senegal of Biloxi, a Lucky Day Scholar double majoring in international business and Spanish, and Tywana Armstrong of Ocean Springs, a senior business management major, bag debris at the Big Event clean-up site in Waveland.

Southern Miss Gulf Coast students, faculty and staff participated in one of four projects along the coast on April 14. These projects included property clean up in Waveland, Gulfport and Saucier, as well as a children's project for Lynn Meadows Discovery Center at the University's Gulf Park campus in Long Beach.

For the children participating in the art project for Lynn Meadows Discovery Center, freshman Whitney Ward feels that the Big Event is helping to promote the importance of community service at a young age.

The Big Event, hosted by both the Gulf Park and Hattiesburg campuses, is held each year in April. At the conclusion of their volunteer work, Southern Miss Gulf Coast students returned to the Gulf Park campus to show their school spirit by painting helping hands on the campus' Little Rock.

Basic Economic Course Helps City Officials with Strategic Planning

Elected officials from practically every corner of Mississippi were on hand for the "Basic Community Economic Development" course held April 24 at the Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development and Entrepreneurship.

Trent Lott Center Director Rick Duke makes a presentation as part of the "Basic Community Economic Development" course held April 24 on the Southern Miss campus.

Held on The University of Southern Mississippi campus in Hattiesburg, the introductory course emphasized elected officials' role in community and economic development. The participants included Mississippi mayors, aldermen and alderwomen, financial officers and other city/county government officials.

"A course such as this is extremely important for communities throughout the state who are looking at ways to improve their economic situation," said Canton Mayor William Truly. "It has been a tremendous benefit to me hearing from so many experts on financial structuring, economic development, balancing budgets and other relevant topics."

The first of its kind to be offered in South Mississippi, the course took a comprehensive look at the steps that set the stage for broad job creation opportunities. Other topics included regionalism -- sharing scarce resources and accomplishing economic development activities, which is a growing trend around the country.

Partners that joined the Trent Lott National Center in making the event possible included the Mississippi Municipal League; Mississippi Association of Supervisors; Mississippi Manufacturers Association; Gulf Coast Business Council; Mississippi Economic Council and the Mississippi Main Street Association.

Butler Snow Foundation Presents Check to Southern Miss Children's Center

Representatives from the Butler, Snow, O'Mara, Stevens & Cannada (Butler Snow) Foundation presented a check for $25,751 to The University of Southern Mississippi Children's Center for Communication and Development on April 23 to be used for its project focusing on Early Intervention, Literacy and School Readiness for Young Children with Significant Disabilities.

Butler Snow Foundation representative Lucien Bourgeois, right, presents a check for $25,751 to Southern Miss President Martha Saunders.

The funds provided by Butler Snow will be used in part to purchase a variety of high-tech therapy and classroom devices to support language development, fine and gross motor skills and to support behavioral and social development. In addition to technology devices, funds will be used to purchase valuable testing and assessment tools.

Foundation member Lucien Bourgeois made the official check presentation. "We're a small foundation with limited resources, so we try to be very selective with our grant recipients," said Bourgeois. "Over time we came to realize that The Children's Center is exactly the kind of program our foundation supports by providing service and training that will benefit children and their families for many years to come."

Gulf Coast Research Lab Receives Check from Local Conservation Chapter

The Bay St. Louis chapter of the Coastal Conservation Association (CCA) presented a check for $2,500 to The University of Southern Mississippi's Gulf Coast Research Laboratory (GCRL) on May 5 at the Garfield Ladner Memorial Pier in Waveland.

Representatives from both GCRL and the Mississippi Department of Marine Resources (DMR) were in attendance to receive the donation. The money will be used for general equipment and supplies that support the rearing, tagging, releasing and post-release monitoring of spotted Sea trout.

The Pilot Stocking program, a partnership between GCRL and the DMR, tests the effectiveness of using hatchery-raised fish to enhance Mississippi's Sea trout population. The spotted Sea trout, *Cynoscion nebulosus,* known locally as speckled trout, is one of Mississippi's chief sport fishes.

GCRL has long been involved in the development of culture and stocking programs for several recreational finfish species.

The donated funds came from the 5th annual Ernie Zimmerman Friends and Family Live Catch tournament held in December of 2011. Some of the fish caught in this tournament went to support the speckled trout population in the Mississippi Sound by providing brood stock.

For more information about the Gulf Coast Research Laboratory, visit usm.edu/gcrl.

Top Authors, Illustrators Honored at Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival

Southern Miss President Martha Saunders, left, presents Jane Yolen with the top award during the annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival held April 11-13.

Artists and authors who have enriched the lives of both young and old alike were honored April 12 at the 45th annual Fay B. Kaigler Children's Literature Festival on The University of Southern Mississippi Hattiesburg campus.

Jane Yolen, author of more than 300 books and winner of the coveted Caldecott Medal, was honored with the festival's top honor, the Southern Miss Medallion. She was presented the award by Southern Miss President Martha Saunders.

She's been called the Hans Christian Andersen of America and the Aesop of the 20th century for her work, which has also earned her six honorary doctorates in literature. Among her more popular works include a series about dinosaurs, which includes such titles as *How Do Dinosaurs Say I Love You?*

For the first time, the Ezra Jack Keats Awards were presented at the festival. The recipient of the 26th annual Ezra Jack Keats New Writer Award was presented to Meg Medina for *Tía Isa Wants a Car,* while the Ezra Jack Keats New Illustrator Award Winner (and New Writer Honor) was presented to Jenny Sue Kostecki-Shaw for *Same, Same but Different.*

Margery Cuyler, an award-winning children's book author and publisher at Marshall Cavendish Children's Books, was the guest presenter. Deborah Pope, executive director for the Ezra Jack Keats Foundation, was also on hand for the presentations.

Keats revolutionized children's literature culturally and artistically in 1962 with his inclusion of Peter, an African American child living in a large city, in his acclaimed *The Snowy Day.* The Keats awards were established to honor his work while also encouraging new authors and illustrators in the field of children's literature.

The Fay B. Kaigler Children's Book Festival is presented annually by the University's School of Library and Information Science and de Grummond Children's Literature Collection.

2012 Eagle Awards Celebrates African-American Achievements

Jewel Tucker was the recipient of the Humanitarian Award, which recognizes an individual who has had a record of sustained giving and volunteerism and has, through their efforts, made a significant contribution to changing lives on the campus of Southern Miss and in the community, during the 2012 Eagle Awards.

Vrita Delaine was the recipient of the Lifetime Achievement Award, which recognizes an individual who has dedicated his/her life to making an impact on the lives of others through significant contributions, during the 2012 Eagle Awards.

Celebrating the achievements of African-American students, athletes and organizations, Eagle Awards recognizes students who have continually made a difference on campus. Alumni and students are honored for outstanding service, leadership and citizenship during the event, which serves as the culmination of Black History Month. The 2012 Eagle Awards celebrated the achievements of African-American students, athletes and organizations.

"The Eagle Awards Ceremony developed as an idea of the Black History Month Committee. We wanted to take the opportunity to highlight individuals who have blazed trails for current students and employees and to recognize students that now have the responsibility of carrying the torch," said Valencia Walls, Greek Life coordinator and interim director of minority affairs.

The second annual event, hosted by current students Tierra Clemmons and Jeremy Hosey, selects its award recipients from a pool of nominees, and honors both undergraduates as well as graduate students. Zachary Shawn Gatlin, a senior mass communications and journalism major and Jackson, Miss., native, was recognized as Student Eagle – Undergraduate, while Gabrielle Darville, a Master of Public Health student and Bahamas native, was awarded the Student Eagle – Graduate Award.

The Student Organization of The Year was awarded to Men of Excellence, which is a community service-based organization that works to better the image of all males on campus with emphasis on education-enriched programs while building a foundation of excellence.

The Southern Miss chapter of the NAACP sponsored an essay contest, which focused on the impact of popular culture on the African-American community. The winners of this essay contest, Contrell Terrell and Don Holmes, received a $200 textbook scholarship.

The 2012 Eagle Awards recognized a male and female Athlete of the Year who honors the tradition of individual and team achievement, leadership, pride and loyalty, as well as a commitment to giving back to the community. This year's recipients are Neil Watson and Cara Wells.

Chapters of the Greek Life community were also recognized, with Zeta Phi Beta Sorority Inc., and Omega Psi Phi Fraternity Inc., being awarded outstanding sorority and fraternity of the year, respectfully.

The events marked the end of Black History Month, and featured special entertainment by Spirit of Southern, an a cappella male student vocal performance group.

1910 SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TO THE TOP!

MEMBERSHIP MINUTE

Did you know that a discount of $100 off the Life Membership fee is available to alumni who have paid annual dues for 20 or more years or who are over the age of 60? Please contact the Association at 601.266.5013 to verify your longtime member discount.

PREPARING FOR COLLEGE:

CONNECTING WITH YOUR SOUTHERN MISS RECRUITER

Allison Bruton, M.Ed. '99, '08
DIRECTOR OF ADMISSIONS FOR RECRUITMENT
OFFICE OF ADMISSIONS, THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

A college search brings with it a lot of questions. From the success of graduates to campus safety and everything in between, there is a lot of information to gather and process. The best place to start is with your recruiter (also called an admissions counselor). A relationship with your Southern Miss recruiter is a great resource for you and your student. Working within a geographic territory, Southern Miss recruiters are extremely knowledgeable and eager to assist families during the college search process. As your search unfolds, you can stay in touch with your recruiter along the way to ask questions and express concerns.

Find Your Southern Miss Recruiter Today
www.usm.edu/admissions/find-your-admissions-counselor

Would you like your child or grandchild to be recruited by Southern Miss? Make sure they send their test scores to Southern Miss. You can also fill out a "Recommend a Student" form located on the Alumni Association website or connect with an admissions counselor in your area online at usm.edu/admissions.

SOUTHERN MISS TRiVIA

Here ore o few questions to test yaur knowledge of Sauthern Miss history. Answer two ar three accurotely, ond you con consider yourself o loyol olumnus ar alumna. Answer zero or ane carrectly, ond you moy wont to double check to moke sure your diplomo is nat from o university in north Mississippi.

1. Under what faatball caach's leodership did the footboll team win twa Natianal College Division Chompionships?
2. Whot yeor wos the Student Government Associatian farmed, ond whot wos their first motto?
3. In whot year did Eugene Keebler receive the first PhD ever aworded by The University of Sauthern Mississippi?
4. What Sauthern Miss praductian became the first complete apera to be televised by the Mississippi Educatianal Televisian Netwark when it aired in 1974?

SEE THE ANSWERS ON PAGE 62

"With the continuing and increased support of Partners for the Arts, the future for arts events in the Hattiesburg area is bright."

--Dr. Steven Moser, Dean, College of Arts and Letters

To view events or for more information, visit www.usm.edu/partners-arts or find us on Facebook.

To join or find out more about Partners for the Arts, call 601.266.5922.

Partners for the Arts

Upcoming Events Calendar

All events ore subject to chonge ond should be confirmed. Any questions regarding these events con be directed to the Southern Miss Alumni Associotion ot olumni@usm.edu or coll 601.266.5013. Please visit SouthernMissAlumni.com for the most up-to-dote colendor. All events ore locoted on the Hottiesburg Compus unless otherwise noted. The footbo l schedule is included in the Athletic News section of this edition of *The Tolon*. All other othletics schedules con be found by visiting SouthernMiss.com. For more informotion on specific chopter events, contoct Lourie Benvenutti ot 601.266.5357.

June

10 -16 **The Southern Experience: Show Choir and Choral Camp**
For more information, contact The School of Music at 601.266.5543

11-23 **Midsummer Musical Theatre Experience**
Children ages 8 – 15 | For more information, contact The School of Music at 601.266.5543

17 **All-South Drum Majors and Guard Camp**
For more information, contact The School of Music at 601.266.5543

21 **Southern Arena Theatre presents "The 13th of Paris" and "The Fox on the Fairway"**
For ticket information, contact the Theatre department at 601.266.4994 | June 21 – July 15

23 **22nd Annual Mississippi on the Mall**
National Mall, Washington, D.C. | 3 – 7:30 p.m.

30 **Atlanta's Mississippi Picnic in the Park**
Chastain Park | 10:30 a.m. - 3:30 p.m.

July

12 **Jackson All-Star Party**
Mississippi Trademart | 5:30 p.m.
$10 per person, $20 per family

14 **Gulf Coast Beach Bash**
Dr. Frank Gruich Sr. Community Center, Biloxi
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | $15 per person, $25 for two people

August

4 **South Central MS Eagle Fanfare**
Lake Terrace Convention Center
Hattiesburg | 2 p.m. | $5 per person

30 **Southern Miss vs. Nebraska Alumni Association Travel Trip**
Southern Miss is taking on the University of Nebraska for its 2012 season opener on September 1. The Alumni Association has organized a travel package to Omaha and Lincoln for the game against the Huskers.
August 30 – September 2

Offering a *uniquely historic* setting consider the *Ogletree House* for your next event.

Members of the Southern Miss Alumni Association are eligible for a 50% discount off the rental rate.

1910
SOUTHERN MISS
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TO THE TOP!

To inquire about rates and availability, contact Dawn Smith.
601.266.5013 | Dawn.Smith@usm.edu

AA/EOE/ADAI UC 65588.5013.1.12

Dates for Big Three Summer Parties Announced

The Southern Miss Alumni Association has announced the dates for the organization's big three summer parties to be held throughout Mississippi. The parties, named affectionately for the largest three alumni chapters in the state, are hosted by the Central Mississippi, Gulf Coast Metro and South Central Mississippi chapters of the Association, and offer opportunities for guests to visit with Southern Miss coaches, administrators, athletes, cheerleaders and Seymour. Golden Eagle merchandise will also be available for purchase, and silent auctions will be held to raise money for the chapters' respective scholarship funds for incoming students and provide support to the Eagle Club.

BIG THREE SUMMER PARTIES

July 12 **Jackson All-Star Party**
Mississippi Trademart | Jackson | 5:30 p.m.
$10 per person, $20 per family

July 14 **Gulf Coast Beach Bash**
Dr. Frank Gruich Sr. Community Center | Biloxi
5:30 – 7:30 p.m. | $15 per person, $25 for two people

August 4 **Eagle Fanfare**
Lake Terrace Convention Center | Hattiesburg
2 p.m. | $5 per person

Legacy Corner: Exam Week Doughnut Drop

The stress of finals week and end-of-semester projects can seem overwhelming for students, but The Legacy aimed to boost morale during Exam Week for students by handing out 13 dozen Krispy Kreme doughnuts, with the assistance of Seymour, on the first floor of Cook Library. "This event is a random act of kindness for students," said Laurie Benvenutti, manager of constituent relations for the Southern Miss Alumni Association. The Legacy Board passed out napkins and gave words of encouragement to students studying for finals, and all 13 dozen doughnuts were handed out in less than 15 minutes. Seymour entertained students with humorous antics, as they took a quick break from studying to take photos and interact with the beloved Golden Eagle.

N VS

Eagles Away!

On Thursday, August 30, Southern Miss alumni and fans will depart from Jackson-Evers International Airport for Lincoln, Nebraska, in support of our Golden Eagles. Spending three nights in Old Market Omaha, Neb., known as the arts and entertainment district, Golden Eagles will have ample time to experience the area and cheer on the football team on game day.

Game time has not been set, but time has been set aside for attendees to visit the University of Nebraska-Lincoln campus and enjoy a meal. The Southern Miss Alumni Association has organized a private dinner on Friday, August 31, at the Upstream Brewing Company. The venue, located in Old Market, is exclusive to Omaha and promises a unique dining experience.

Two travel packages are available. The Air Package ($1,000 based on double occupancy) includes airfare, hotel, taxes, gratuity, game tickets, Friday evening dinner and transportation to and from the airport and football game. The Land Package ($500 based on double occupancy) includes three nights in "Old Market" Omaha, taxes, gratuity, game tickets, Friday evening dinner and transportation to and from the football game. A nonrefundable deposit of $150 per person is due July 1.

Southern Miss alumni and Golden Eagle family members interested in the trip can contact the Southern Miss Alumni Association at 601.266.5013 or register online at SouthernMissAlumni.com.

Members of The Legacy, SGA and Y2I Attend Annual Legislative Day

The Legacy, SGA and Y2I students pose with Governor Phil Bryant '77, at the Capitol Building in Jackson.

Student leaders from The Legacy, the student Alumni Association, Student Government Association and Year 2 Initiative (Y2I) traveled to Jackson for the annual Student Legislative Day on April 4.

Serving as an opportunity to learn more about Mississippi politics, the event boasted more than 30 attendees. Students arrived at the Capitol and were welcomed by Southern Miss alumni and Governor Phil Bryant, as well as Senator John Polk and Representative Toby Barker. The students were seated and recognized in both the Senate and House sessions.

The professional development and mentoring opportunity culminated with the presentation of a thank you gift to Governor Bryant, as well as a lunch with state legislators at the Capital Club.

Alumni Association Hosts Spring Reception for The Legacy

The 2012 scholarship recipients include (back, l-r) Tarrel Bridges, Past Presidents Council Endowed Scholarship; D'Andra Price, Powell and Frances Ogletree Endowed Scholarship; and Clyde Kennard Memorial Endowed Scholarship Recipients Jemarquise Taylor, Raven Reese and Shandell Lewis. (Front, l-r) Clyde Kennard Memorial Endowed Scholarship Recipients Ross Bridley, Wilton Jackson II and Sophie Saizan.

The fourth annual spring reception was held on April 24, to honor the 2011-12 Legacy Board and scholarship recipients. The Legacy Board leads the efforts of the students Alumni Association, which serves as the University's keeper of tradition. More than 20 members of The Legacy and their guests attended the banquet in the Ogletree House.

During the event, senior Legacy Board Members Darryl Harris, Orlando Jones Jr., Raven Reese and Justin Reeves were recognized for their service and commitment to The Legacy. Jones was also presented with a plaque for his tenure as president of the organization for the 2011-12 year.

Eight scholarships were also awarded during the reception. D'Andra Price received the Powell and Frances Ogletree Endowed Scholarship, which is awarded to an outstanding member of The Legacy on an annual basis. Requirements for the Ogletree Scholarship are primarily outstanding service to The Legacy along with involvement at Southern Miss. The scholarship is a one-time monetary gift of $1,500.

Torrel Bridges was awarded the Past Presidents Council Endowed Scholarship, which goes to an individual who can be designated as a Southern Miss alumni leader of the future. Bridges demonstrates a profound interest in The University of Southern Mississippi, its traditions and future, and displays an allegiance promising to last long beyond his academic days at the University.

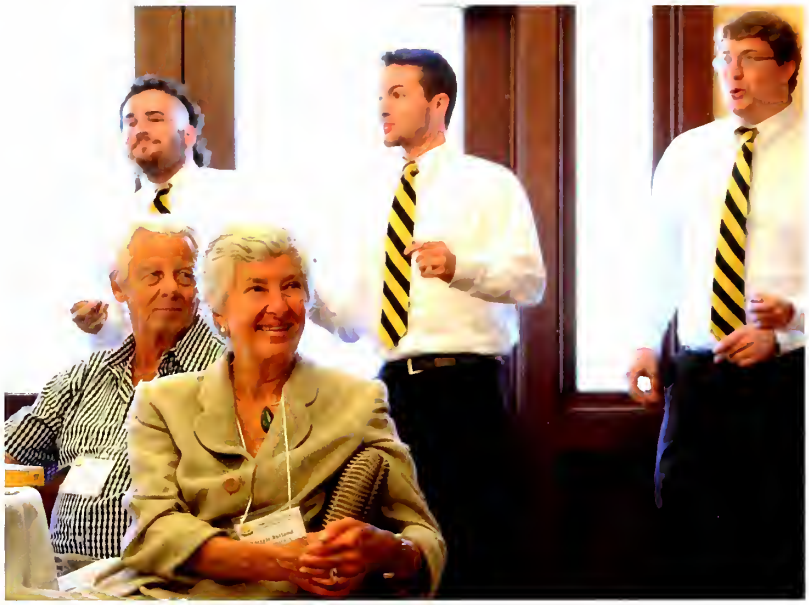
Ross Bridley, Wilton C. Jackson II, Shandell Lewis, Raven Reese, Sophie Saizan and Jemarquise Taylor were named recipients of the Clyde Kennard Memorial Endowed Scholarship. This scholarship provides aid to Southern Miss students, with preference given to minority students, as selected by the Alumni Association Scholarship Committee. It is requested that special priority be given to members of The Legacy who have demonstrated a commitment to the University and a desire to see it prosper. This scholarship is named in honor of Clyde Kennard, an African-American who was denied admission to Mississippi Southern College in the 1950s.

Alumni Association Welcomes the Class of 1962 Back to Campus

Graduates from the class of 1962 returned to campus May 4-5, for the 2012 Golden Grad Reunion. Enjoying guest speakers, campus tours and entertainment, attendees were given a unique experience, hosted by The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association. Reconnecting with old friends and Southern Miss family, graduates shared stories about their time as students and were inducted into the Golden Circle.

Hosted in the Ogletree House, the Golden Grad Reunion welcomed Dr. Chester "Bo" Morgan, professor and author, as guest speaker, and a musical performance by the a cappella male vocal group known as Spirit of Southern entertained guests before the medallion presentation, inducting graduates into the Golden Circle.

For Golden Eagle graduates of more than 50 years ago, the Golden Grad Reunion is an event alumni and their families look forward to as an opportunity to catch up and pass on Southern Miss traditions.



Ray Donfarth '62 from Osterville, Mass., and Margie Hauenstein '60 from Laurel, Miss., enjoy entertainment provided by the Spirit of Southern during this year's 2012 Golden Grad Reunion festivities.

TAILGATING TREATS & GAME DAY GRUB!

The Southern Miss Alumni Association is searching for fan-favorite Golden Eagle recipes! Submit your beloved recipes or helpful hints on how to make game days this fall the best experience for Golden Eagles and their families, and your submission may appear in an upcoming edition of *The Talon*. From The District-inspired dips to snacks worthy of M.M. Roberts Stadium, we want to hear from you! Be sure to include your graduation year and any Southern Miss game day *photos of you and your family. SMTTT!

Submit all entries to alumni@usm.edu.

*For printing purposes, please save or scan your photos at a resolution of 300 dpi.

Volunteers Take Home Awards from Annual Leadership Conference

Gathering together alumni chapter volunteers, ambassadors and constituent society leaders to discuss opportunities and ideas for Alumni Association events and initiatives, the 2012 Annual Leadership Conference, held April 14, was a success. Taking time to review the leadership manual and network with area Association volunteers, the event highlighted outstanding leadership and service with four awards. Alumni Chapter of the Year, Scott Caldwell Award for Chapter President of the Year, Alumni Ambassador of the Year and the Constituent Society of the Year.

Lance LeFan receives the Scott Caldwell Award for Outstanding Chapter President.

2011 SCOTT CALDWELL AWARD: Lance LeFan, South Central Mississippi Alumni Chapter

The Scott Caldwell Award is given in honor of Southern Miss Alumnus Scott Caldwell, who passed away of cancer during his term as president of the Mobile Alumni Chapter in 1992. This award is presented annually to recognize an outstanding alumni chapter president. This year's award was presented to longtime volunteer Lance LeFan of the South Central Mississippi Alumni Chapter. Lance has dedicated countless hours to the University and to the South Central Mississippi Alumni Chapter. Under his leadership, the chapter's annual Eagle Fanfare has prospered, as has the chapter's service to the Hattiesburg community.

CONSTITUENT SOCIETY OF THE YEAR: Law Constituent Society

The Constituent Society of the Year Award is designed to recognize one of the Association's constituent societies for its contributions to the University. The recipient of this year's award is the Law Constituent Society, which is comprised of Southern Miss alumni and friends who work in the legal field. Each fall, the group hosts the Elmo Lang Memorial Continuing Legal Education Seminar on the Hattiesburg campus. Alums and non-alums alike attend the seminar, which has grown each year. This seminar raises money for the Elmo Lang Memorial Scholarship.

Judge David Ishee, president of the Law Constituent Society, receives the Constituent Society of the Year Award.

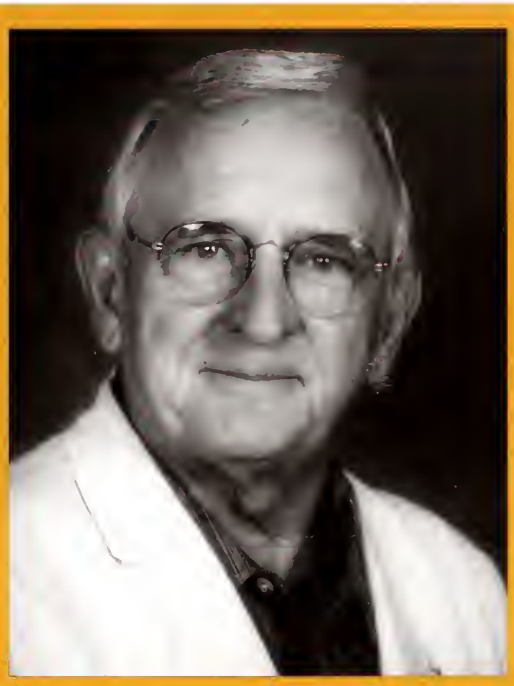
ALUMNI AMBASSADOR OF THE YEAR:
Kimberly Fountain, Houston, Texas

The Alumni Ambassador of the Year recognizes an alumni volunteer who lives in an area more sparsely populated with Southern Miss Alumni. Kimberly Fountain has served as a volunteer with both the Houston Ambassador group and with the Minority Constituent Society. When the Golden Eagle football team traveled to Houston for the C-USA Championship game, Kimberly was quick to organize a pre-game social the evening before the game, as well as a Southern Miss tailgate the morning of the game. Kimberly is a devoted supporter of the University and of the Alumni Association.

2011 ALUMNI CHAPTER OF THE YEAR:
New Orleans Alumni Chapter

Steven Leggett, president of the New Orleans Alumni Chapter, receives the Alumni Chapter of the Year banner.

The New Orleans Alumni Chapter has worked hard to build a sense of community amongst the alumni in the area. The chapter holds regular game-viewing parties and socials and also organizes trips to many Southern Miss sporting events that occur in New Orleans throughout the year. This year, the group held a chapter tailgate at the To the Top Terrace in M.M. Roberts Stadium for a home football game. In August 2011, the chapter held a dinner at the American Sector in the National World War II Museum with guest speaker Dr. Joe Paul. A record-breaking crowd attended the dinner. The chapter provides scholarships to deserving Greater New Orleans students that have excelled in and out of the classroom and are incoming freshmen to Southern Miss.



Remembering Alumni Association Past President Lamar Gillespie

Dr. H. Lamar Gillespie Sr. died Wednesday, May 2, 2012, at his residence surrounded by his family.

Dr. Gillespie was one of the founding physicians of the Hattiesburg Clinic, where he practiced obstetrics and gynecology for more than three decades.

He was past president of the Southern Miss Alumni Association from 1968-69, a member of the Alumni Association's Hall of Fame, USM Foundation, Hattiesburg Civic Association and the Hattiesburg Country Club. He was a member of the Forrest General Healthcare Foundation Board and was inducted into the Forrest General Healthcare Foundation Doctors' Hall of Fame in 2010. He was a past board member of the United Way and a member of Senior Quest.

Dr. Gillespie was an active member of Parkway Heights United Methodist Church and a United States Army Veteran.

He is survived by his wife, Joy Boyer Gillespie of Hattiesburg; a son, Dr. Hilton L. Gillespie Jr. (Kim) of Hattiesburg; three daughters, Pam Gillespie Waddle (Benny) of Hattiesburg, Suzanne Gillespie Sims of Hattiesburg and Jodie Gillespie Hopkins (Norris) of Gulfport; eight grandchildren, Lamar and William Gillespie; Amanda and Benjamin Waddle; Michael, Carrie Anne and Lee Sims; and Carter Hopkins.

Memorials may be made to the USM Foundation Lamar and Joy Gillespie Pre-Med Scholarship Fund.

Welcome New Life Members

Richard and Kathleen Alexander
Thomas and Tamara Ashker
Spencer and Donna Bailey
Natasha Baughman
Todd and Kate Bondurant
Stephen and Jennifer Clark
Bradley Clark
Norman and Cathy Collins
Alva Cook
Gerald Davis
Michael Fooladi
Joseph Goodman
Carolyn Harrison
Carrie Herstam
Corey and Joanna Hinshaw
Wren Hood
Kim Howell
Clinton Hull
James and Ann King
Kenneth Koch
Jay Land
Harold Leggett
William Lucy
W.H. and Billie Martin
Donna Mitchell
Patrick and Elizabeth Murphy
Polly Odom
Darrold and Marcella Peters
Robert Pharr
Kurt Raymond
Alvaro Roa
Danny Robinson
Bruce and Lucy Scott
Larry Seelnacht
Angela Simone
Suzanna Smith
Mark Spinney
Bryan Stevens
Judy Stoffle
Helen Thomas
Brett and Alesia Valentine
Bryant and Sonja Watkins
Thomas Weathersby
Valerie Webber
Sheldon Wolf

Students Benefit from Annual Networking Dinner

Greg Hadges, commercial market president and senior vice president for Hancock Bank, visits with Southern Miss students during the Annual Networking Dinner held at the Ogletree House on March 27.

Thirty students attended the annual Networking Dinner held March 27 for The Legacy and Career Services students.

Brandi Hough, project manager, Asset Development Division of Mississippi Development Authority; Jamey Davion, cardiology nurse with Hattiesburg Clinic; and Brad Jones, branch manager of Cintas Corporation were among the 15 employers that attended the event.

The event began with a networking workshop led by Jerry Holifield, vice president of risk management and loss prevention for Channel Control Merchants, LLC, which is the parent company of Dirt Cheap and Treasure Hunt stores. The purpose of the workshop was to help students feel more comfortable about the networking process with employers as well as with each other.

At the conclusion of the workshop, there was a reception in which the students were able to interact with the employers in a more relaxed setting. Following the reception, a dinner was held in hopes of allowing the students the opportunity to spend more time with the professionals they most closely related to in terms of their interests and career aspirations. Employers and students were seated at tables based on similar career fields and majors. Charles Arinder, owner of Caliente Grille, was the guest speaker during dinner, where students listened intently as he described his own journey of opening Caliente Grille in Hattiesburg.

Did you KNOW?

Did you know that the Alumni Association in conjunction with Barnes and Noble Bookstore unveiled the University's official ring in a ceremony on October 30, 2003? The following year on Founders' Day, more than 40 students received the official ring as part of an Inaugural Official Ring Ceremony. Since that time, the Alumni Association has presented rings to more than 200 students at the Official Ring Ceremony, and more than 165 students purchased a ring during the 2011-12 school year.

Scan the above QR code to view the Official Ring video and learn more.

SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION TO THE TOP!

THE SOUTHERN MISS ALUMNI ASSOCIATION

invites you to take the trip of a lifetime!

MEDITERRANEAN MARVELS OCEANIA CRUISES

BARCELONA TO ROME
(7 nights)

DATE:
April 20 – 28, 2013
Riviera

PRICE:
From $1,799 per person, double occupancy
(Airfare included)

OCEANIA CRUISES®

The elegance, excitement and rich cultures of the Mediterranean are yours to explore as you cruise aboard *Riviera*, Oceania Cruises' newest vessel, to France, Monaco and Italy. Depart Barcelona and travel to Marseille, the gateway to Provence. Explore its historic old town, or perhaps experience the rich Provençal countryside near Aix, known as the city of a thousand fountains, or Avignon, home to the spectacular Palace of the Popes. Cruise to St. Tropez and sample the high life on the French Riviera, where museums featuring the artwork of Matisse blend with upscale restaurants and shops. Continue to Monte Carlo, a glittering wonder on the famed Grand Corniche, and stroll through the venerable old quarter, or explore the surrounding Côte d'Azur locales such as Nice, Cannes and St. Paul de Vence. Next stop is Italy and the resort town of Portofino, where a magnificent 16th-century castle overlooks a modern playground of villas and yachts. Savor the magnificent Renaissance museums and architecture of legendary Florence, or see Pisa's famous Leaning Tower amid the superb Field of Miracles. Arrive in Sorrento and visit Capri, its timeless island scenery famed since the Roman Empire, or take in the amazing ruins of Pompeii, before disembarking in Civitavecchia, the port of Rome.

Discover the upscale pearls of the Mediterranean aboard Oceania Cruises' newest vessel, the elegant *Riviera*. Explore Provence from Marseille, experience the French Riviera in St. Tropez and Monte Carlo, and enrich yourself among renowned Italian art and natural beauty in Portofino, Florence and Capri.

For more information, visit SouthernMissAlumni.com.

This map represents approximate locations.

GO next

USM Foundation Completes $10 Million Building Better Business Campaign

Southern Miss dignitaries and officials, including University President Martha Saunders, Dean of the College of Business Lance Nail, Mississippi Governor Phil Bryant and campaign lead donor Chuck Scianna, formally break ground on Scianna Hall.

As University of Southern Mississippi officials and noted dignitaries broke ground on the long-imagined dream of a new home for the College of Business at Southern Miss, The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation announced the successful conclusion of the $10 million Building Better Business Campaign.

At a reception held on Thursday, May 10, Bob Pierce, vice president for university advancement and executive director of the USM Foundation, announced that the Foundation had raised $10,152,568 to help construct Scianna Hall, a 93,000-square-foot facility that will sit adjacent to the Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development and Entrepreneurship, facing U.S. 49 South.

The new building is named in honor of Southern Miss alumnus Charles "Chuck" Scianna, who has committed $6 million toward the project, which is estimated to cost $30 million. Scianna's gift includes an initial commitment of $5 million that named the facility, as well as a subsequent $1 million matching gift challenge that assisted in the successful conclusion of the private giving campaign necessary to facilitate construction. Scianna's commitment represents the largest one-time gift to the USM Foundation by a Southern Miss alumnus.

"I am interested in making an investment that the University and the state will benefit from," said Scianna, president of Sim-Tex, L.P. in Waller, Texas. "We will get a greater return on this investment than on any other in the quality of education, curriculum and graduates we produce. I've always said I'd put a business degree from Southern Miss up against any other degree in the country."

The Building Better Business Campaign received a significant boost in February when a gift from The First Bancshares Inc. pushed the campaign past the $8 million mark. In the months of February through May, the Foundation staff and campaign volunteers worked to generate an additional $1 million in contributions that would qualify for the Scianna Challenge. Just before the groundbreaking, Hancock Bank made a gift commitment that moved the campaign past the $9 million mark. Thanks to the gift commitment from Hancock Bank, along with the matching gift made by Scianna, the campaign exceeded its $10 million goal in May.

"We are obviously thrilled with the successful conclusion of the campaign so Scianna Hall can come to fruition," said Pierce. "We had a wonderful team in place that included Dr. Saunders, Dr. Nail, our campaign steering committee led by Joy Lightsey, and a hardworking Foundation staff. This is something to be proud of."

Almost 400 people gathered on May 10, to celebrate the beginnings of Scianna Hall, a facility that will transform the Southern Miss College of Business program that includes approximately 2,200 students, more than 65 faculty members and 17 staff members. The new facility will replace antiquated Joseph Greene Hall, which opened in 1967. Its estimated completion date is spring 2014.

"For so many years, the construction of a new building to house the ever-growing College of Business has been just a vision, but now it is becoming reality," said Gov. Phil Bryant, who was on hand for the ceremony. "While I was serving as lieutenant governor, the Legislature provided $26 million of state funding for this new state-of-the-art center. The new College of Business building will be a tremendous asset in providing a solid foundation for the next generation of business leaders in our state."

The Southern Miss College of Business is fully accredited by AACSB International – The Association to Advance Collegiate Schools of Business. Over the past three years, College of Business faculty have generated more than 50 publications in ranked, high-citation journals – equaling or surpassing the quality research productivity of doctoral-granting colleges in the region. In 2010, the College of Business entered the rankings for business programs for the first time, placing it in the top 15 percent of business programs in the United States.

"From providing teaching and learning spaces conducive to improving student learning in business knowledge and skills to faculty spaces that promote the advancement of business knowledge, Scianna Hall will move Southern Miss further toward its vision to become the leading business school in the state and the region," said Dr. Lance Nail, dean of the College of Business. "We could not be more appreciative to Governor Phil Bryant and the Mississippi Legislature for the state funding and to our donors for the private support."

To learn more about the College of Business at Southern Miss, visit www.usm.edu/business. For more information on the Building Better Business Campaign, visit www.usmfoundation.com/businessbuilding.

GOLDEN EAGLE IMPACT

Donors to the College of Business Building Campaign of $10,000 or more since January 2012:

SPENCER and B.J. ADAMS
of Mobile, Ala.

LINDSAY and BRYAN BRUNER
of Humble, Texas

THE FIRST BANCSHARES INC.
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

MARY DAYNE and WALLY GREGG
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

TODD GREGORY
of Mandeville, La.

HANCOCK BANK
of Gulfport, Miss.

THE BILLY HEWES FAMILY
of Gulfport, Miss.

SALLY HOYT
of Houston, Texas

JOHN T. LOCKARD
of Pascagoula, Miss.

REGIONS BANK
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

DOUG and RHONDA SEIDENBURG
of Laurel, Miss.

TRUSTMARK BANK
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

LAWRENCE and BONNIE WARREN
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

Donors to the School of Nursing Building Campaign of $10,000 or more since January 2012:

JANIE and RONALD BUTTS
of Ellisville, Miss.

MARJORIE GEISZ-EVERSON
of New Orleans, La.

WAYNE and TERRI HUGHES
of Hattiesburg, Miss.

PAT and JEANETTE SMITH of Gulfport, Miss. made a gift commitment of $12,500 to establish the James "Pat" Smith and Jeanette Holcomb Smith USM Gulf Coast Scholarship Endowment to award scholarships to students enrolled at Southern Miss Gulf Coast.

THE TOMMY AND CLODAGH MANN FOUNDATION of Katy, Texas made a gift of $10,000 to help establish the Jill Marie Atkinson Thompson Fund for Southern Miss students from the Gulf Coast.

Utilizing a three-to-one match from ExxonMobil Foundation, MR. FRED DREWS, JR. of Hattiesburg, Miss. made a gift of $20,000 to award scholarships to deserving seniors majoring in mathematics, chemistry and biology.

BUTLER, SNOW, OMARA, STEVENS & CANNADA FOUNDATION of Ridgeland, Miss. made a gift of $25,751 to support the Children's Center for Communication and Development at Southern Miss.

LARRY and CAROL WATSON of Hattiesburg, Miss. made a $10,000 gift commitment to support the DuBard School for Language Disorders Endowment.

Mississippi Manufacturers Association Establishes Endowed Scholarship Fund at The University of Southern Mississippi

With a gift of $60,000 to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association (MMA) has established the Mississippi Manufacturers Association Scholarship Endowment.

"MMA believes in supporting the next generation of leaders," said Jay C. Moon, CEcD, FM, MMA president and CEO. "We anticipate this scholarship will provide an incentive for young people to pursue the education and training required to take advantage of the opportunities available in advanced manufacturing."

From left: Joe Whitehead, dean of the College of Science and Technology; Martha Saunders, president of the University; Jay Moon, president and chief executive officer of MMA; and Bobby Dews, former MMA chairman of the board.

The endowment will provide two $1,000 academic scholarships annually to students studying within the School of Polymers and High Performance Materials or the Industrial Engineering Technology program. In addition, recipients must be full-time students who are Mississippi residents and classifed as juniors with at least a 3.0 grade point average.

"We are thrilled with the scholarships provided by the Mississippi Manufacturers Association," said Joe Whitehead, dean of the College of Science and Technology. "The scholarships will provide opportunities for current Southern Miss students and future graduates in redeveloping manufacturing in Mississippi."

For 60 years, the Mississippi Manufacturers Association has represented the interests of Mississippi's manufacturers at both the state and national levels. As the voice of industry in the state, MMA represents more than 2,100 members in the state legislature and U.S. Congress. MMA promotes a strong manufacturing environment within Mississippi and is a central source of information and assistance in industrial management.

Mississippi Export Railroad Establishes Scholarship at Southern Miss Gulf Coast

In celebration of its 90th anniversary, Mississippi Export Railroad Company established the Mississippi Export Railroad Gulf Coast Scholarship Endowment with a gift of $50,000 to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation.

"Moss Point, Miss., has been the home of Mississippi Export Railroad for 90 years," said Greg Luce, president and chairman of the board at Mississippi Export Railroad and member of the Southern Miss class of 1966. "In recognition of our anniversary, we wanted to give back to the coastal community by offering financial assistance to those pursuing a higher education. The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast has specific needs for their students, and we have a desire to help them grow and succeed as a premier research university of the Gulf South. We are very excited about the partnership."

The scholarship will be awarded to a student enrolled in any program at The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast.

"We are thrilled to join the celebration of 90 years of service to the community from Mississippi Export Railroad with their commitment to enhancing the quality of education at Southern Miss," said Dr. Frances Lucas, vice president and campus executive officer for The University of Southern Mississippi Gulf Coast. "This gift will help support the much-needed educational opportunity for students in South Mississippi."

In 1922, the late Gregory M. Luce, great-grandfather of the current president and chairman of the board, purchased the defunct Alabama and Mississippi Railroad. The railroad was shortened from 84 to 42 miles and renamed Mississippi Export Railroad Company. Soon after, the railroad began serving the paper mill near Moss Point and eventually facilitated the return of log trains to the rails in South Mississippi. Attention to advances in rail technology and Gulf Coast industry over the past century have allowed Mississippi Export Railroad to become one of the safest and most efficient shortlines in the country.

Hattiesburg Clinic Supports DuBard School and School of Nursing at Southern Miss

A $100,000 commitment to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation from Hattiesburg Clinic will help fund the DuBard School for Language Disorders 50th Anniversary Campaign and the School of Nursing Building Campaign at Southern Miss.

"Hattiesburg Clinic is pleased to support the DuBard School and the School of Nursing at The University of Southern Mississippi," said Tommy Thornton, executive director of Hattiesburg Clinic. "These two areas are important, not only in providing education in health care-related fields, but they improve the quality of life for residents of South Mississippi."

DuBard School speech-language pathologist, Jordan Wood, works on vocabulary with a student.

The DuBard School for Language Disorders at Southern Miss brings the gift of oral and written language to individuals with severe communication disorders through the use of the DuBard Association Method in direct clinical services and professional training. In celebration of its 50th anniversary, the DuBard School has announced a $2 million fundraising campaign to galvanize the future and longevity of the school. The money generated from the DuBard School 50th Anniversary Campaign will ensure that students at the school receive speech, language and academic therapy and see that those pursuing training in the areas of speech-language pathology, audiology, education of the deaf and specialized reading instruction have a place to learn and excel.

"The generous commitment of Hattiesburg Clinic will help to ensure we can continue to deliver vital services to children with significant speech, language and hearing disabilities as well as the written language disorder of dyslexia," said Dr. Maureen Martin, director of the DuBard School.

The DuBard School serves more than 500 children and their families through enrollment, outclient therapy, evaluations and referral services each year. More than 150 professionals from across the nation undergo training in the DuBard Association Method annually. The school also serves as a teaching and practicum site for dozens of Southern Miss students studying a variety of academic areas.

The Hattiesburg Clinic gift will also support the School of Nursing Building Campaign to help fund a new facility for the School of Nursing at Southern Miss. The state-of-the-art facility, which will be located on the western edge of the Hattiesburg campus, will increase the square footage dedicated to the School of Nursing by 135 percent. The new School of Nursing building will allow for an increase in nursing enrollment from the current 550 students to more than 800 and expand new programs in the School of Nursing.

"I appreciate the financial investment by Hattiesburg Clinic for the campaign and the investment that they have made in collaborating with us in providing future nurses with the educational environment that will promote the learning of the necessary competencies for future practices," said Dr. Katherine Nugent, director of the School of Nursing at Southern Miss.

Through the new space, the School of Nursing hopes to increase interaction and partnerships with the community by providing areas for community forums on health and professional nursing issues, simulation space for interdisciplinary training, and foyer and dining space to host receptions.

"This gift affirms the forward-thinking leadership role of Hattiesburg Clinic in the regional health services community," said Dr. Michael Forster, dean of the College of Health. "Hattiesburg Clinic is an exemplary partner and friend of the college and the University."

The gift from Hattiesburg Clinic will be split equally between the two initiatives. For more information on the DuBard School 50th Anniversary Campaign and the School of Nursing Building Campaign, contact the USM Foundation by calling 601.266.5210 or visiting www.usmfoundation.com.

USM Foundation Hosts Honor Club Black Tie Gala

The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation was proud to once again host the Honor Club Black Tie Gala on March 23, 2012, at the Beau Rivage in Biloxi, Miss.

The Southern Miss String Quartet provided music during the reception and dinner, while the Spirit of Southern performed an entertaining set of a cappella tunes at the beginning of the program.

Guests were inspired by the words of two students, Annie Ellis of Clinton and Garrett Wright of Gulfport, whose lives had been greatly impacted by the scholarships they received from the USM Foundation. A video of Dr. Bonnie Harbaugh, Asbury Distinguished Professor of Nursing, highlighted the importance of supporting endowed professorships at Southern Miss.

The USM Foundation recognized three members of the Honor Club's Gallery of Benefactors for their generosity in 2011: Bill Ray, representing the Asbury Foundation of Hattiesburg, who supported the new School of Nursing building (to be named Asbury Hall) with a commitment of $4 million; Holmes Adams, representing the Luckyday Foundation board, who recently made a $4 million gift commitment to help construct Luckyday Citizenship Hall; and Chuck and Rita Scianna, who have committed $6 million to the new College of Business building, which will be named Scianna Hall.

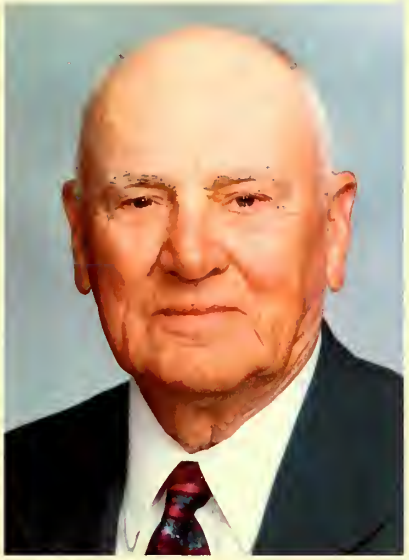
The USM Foundation is already looking forward to next year's Honor Club Black Tie Gala to be held in Hattiesburg. To view pictures from this year's event, visit www.usmfoundation.com/gala2012photos.

Congressmon Steven Polozzo ond his wife, Liso

Gee Ogletree, president of the USM Foundotion, presents o recognition gift to Holmes Adoms, choirmon of the Boord of Monogers for the Luckydoy Foundotion.

From left: Som Britton; Robin Robinson, member of the Stote Institutions of Higher Leorning Boord of Trustees; Dovid Willioms; Cindy Willioms; Meg Poul; ond Joe Poul, vice president for student offoirs ot Southern Miss

Former Geography Department Chair Leaves Bequest to Support Scholarships at Southern Miss


Dr. Arthell Kelley

Dr. Arthell Kelley, Southern Miss alumnus and longtime faculty member, left a $600,000 bequest to The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation to support scholarships for geography students at the University.

Kelley earned his Bachelor of Science degree from Southern Miss in 1940. Upon graduation, he began his teaching career. In May 1941, Kelley entered the U.S. Army and later the Army Air Corps. After graduating from flight school, Kelley was shipped to the Pacific for a 26-month stint, where he flew a P-39 fighter plane in World War II. During his assignment overseas, Kelley was forced to make a crash landing due to engine trouble but was never shot down.

When he returned from the war, Kelley went back to teaching high school students, but soon after made the decision to be a college professor. He earned a master's degree from the University of Missouri in 1947 and a doctorate in geography from the University of Nebraska in 1954.

After serving as chairman of the Geography department at Nebraska Wesleyan University and teaching at Mississippi State College for Women (now Mississippi University for Women), Kelley joined the Geography department at Southern Miss in 1955, where he taught for 25 years. During his tenure at Southern Miss, Kelley served as chair of the department from 1958-71. He was instrumental in increasing the faculty from one full-time person to seven during his term as chair, strengthening the course offerings and curriculum and initiating the graduate program in geography. Kelley retired in 1980. In 1992, the Department of Geography honored the longtime member of the Southern Miss family with the naming of Arthell Kelley Hall. After a lifetime of commitment to education, Kelley passed away in 2009.

Kelley displayed his love for Southern Miss by leaving 50 percent of his residual assets to assist future students in earning a degree in geography at Southern Miss through the establishment of the Arthell Kelley Geography Scholarship Endowment. The purpose of the fund is to help recruit the brightest and best undergraduate and graduate students in geography to Southern Miss, ensuring a lifetime commitment to the growth of geography education. The scholarship will be awarded annually to students pursuing a degree in geography.

"Dr. Arthell Kelley loved Southern Miss and served with distinction as chair and professor of geography," said Dr. Aubrey Lucas, president emeritus. "He could excite students with enthusiastic teaching of geography. He also served the University on many committees and councils. As chair of the Committee on Employee Benefits, he became the campus authority on the Public Employees Retirement System. This gift will be a continuing reminder to us of his devotion to this University."

As one of the oldest academic geography departments in the country, the Geography program at Southern Miss celebrates its 100th anniversary this year and credits much of its success to Kelley.

100

SOUTHERN MISS GEOGRAPHY

Established 1912

"Art was a visionary for geography at Southern Miss," said Dr. Clifton "Skeeter" Dixon, chair of the Department of Geography and Geology. "At a time when the University was young, he led the department to recognition and respect beyond the Deep South. Students said he connected with contagious enthusiasm, and clearly his legacy has provided direction for the geography program's future."

Today, the department offers programs that lead to baccalaureate, master's and doctoral degrees in geography. Some of their recent accomplishments include a long-term, post-Hurricane Katrina study on barrier islands, storm surge, biotic recovery and land loss; receiving the top doctoral graduate in the College of Science and Technology for 2012; research grants from the National Science Foundation, The Department of Homeland Security and The Nature Conservancy; and being ranked third in the College of Science and Technology for student enrollment in 2011.

For more information or to make a gift to the Arthell Kelley Geography Scholarship Endowment, contact the USM Foundation by calling 601.266.5210.

A LOOK BACK AT A BENCHMARK YEAR

2012 marks the 50th anniversary of one of the most significant years in The University of Southern Mississippi's history. During the year of 1962, a number of monumental events took place that would forever impact the future of the University. Today we celebrate these milestones and pay tribute to the faculty, staff, administrators and students whose visionary leadership set the course for excellence.

SIGNING OF BILL TO CREATE THE UNIVERSITY OF SOUTHERN MISSISSIPPI

Mississippi Southern College was destined to undergo momentous changes during the 1960s. President William D. McCain continued to press toward his goal of gaining university status for the college, and on February 27, 1962, the dream became reality. On that day, Governor Ross Barnett signed the bill that made MSC a university, The University of Southern Mississippi.

FIRST PHD AWARDED

The University awarded its first Ph.D. to Eugene M. Keebler on August 14, 1962. Doctorates were soon offered in biology, chemistry, political science, science education, music education, English and literature, history, mathematics, speech and hearing sciences and geography. By 1972, terminal degrees were offered in 27 fields.

CREATION OF THE DUBARD SCHOOL

Speech and hearing became not only a field of academic distinction, but a model of institutional service to the community when Etoile DuBard came to what was by then The University of Southern Mississippi to establish a School for Preschool Deaf and Aphasic Children in 1962. Under her direction, the School for Children with Language Disorders (SCLD), as it soon came to be called, developed and refined the "association method" while transforming the lives of hundreds of children and their families and providing valuable experience for students studying audiology and speech pathology. Bearing the name of its founder, the Dubard School continues to change lives today.

CONSTRUCTION BOOM/CAMPUS AERIAL

1962 marked the height of the McCain era construction boom. Promising to keep campus "dusty or muddy with construction" during his presidency, McCain's vow led to the erection of at least 17 new buildings. Those built during 1962 include Arthell Kelley Hall, J.B. George Commons, Pulley Hall, Bond Hall and the Beedie Smith Clinic.

FLYING HIGH:

Southern Miss Students Find Their Footing Abroad

By Jenny Boudreaux '08

Guard Mounting, popularly known as "the Changing of the Guard" in London, is one of the oldest and most familiar ceremonies associated with Buckingham Palace.

Southern Miss students taking advantage of the warm waters and spectacular view during an excursion to Ha Long Bay, Vietnam

As a rising junior at The University of Southern Mississippi, Dr. Susan Steen spent a year at the University of Wales at Swansea studying abroad—an experience she describes as "transformative," which seems to be a common thread strung throughout the majority of stories told by students who participate in a study-abroad experience.

Now, director of the Center for International Education at Southern Miss, Steen not only has the opportunity to interact with students and faculty participating in the study-abroad programs, but also on occasion takes part in various programs.

For instance, early in the Caribbean Studies program, in order to engage students in a bonding experience, participating members travel to Dunn's River Falls, located in Ocho Rios, Jamaica. Not long ago, Steen joined Dr. Timothy Rehner, director of the Caribbean Studies Program, and other program faculty in Jamaica where they lead program participants on an excursion to climb the falls, one of the program's highlights. Beginning at the foot of the falls, the group slowly ascends to the top, a journey that takes one to two hours.

Dean Dave Davies, professor of journalism on the British Studies Program, and a former student pose in front of Stonehenge, a prehistoric monument dating back to 3100 BC.

On a particular trip, a participant who had a near drowning experience as a child was not sure she wanted to make the climb. "You could see her struggling to decide whether she wanted to go or not," said Steen. "When she made the decision to climb, one of the faculty members and I joined her and stuck with her on the ascent. As she climbed, her expressions were constantly changing from anxiety to concentration to wonder to excitement and pride. We could see in her face that she was literally and metaphorically finding her footing."

Not only was the student finding her footing in the falls, she was finding her footing by overcoming her fears, another universal theme for study-abroad participants. Steen recalls her own initial fears about studying abroad. Financially, she was not confident her family could afford the extra expenses. The unknown consequences of uprooting and moving away for a year, traveling in an unknown country and adjusting to a new university system were all additional challenges.

To comfort those fears, Steen suggests parents encourage their children. "I had great support from my family," Steen explained. "If I hadn't, I'm not sure I would have done it. One of my best moments actually came before I left the country. My parents accompanied me to the gate, and as I was walking down the ramp to board the plane, my mom grabbed my hands and said, 'Fly high, Suzy Steen. Fly high.'"

This was an expression that Steen took to heart, not only during her year abroad, but ever since that moment. "Ultimately, that's what I think study abroad does for students. It gives them an opportunity to fly high."

There are scores of study-abroad opportunities available to students today. Programs range from one to five weeks, a semester, or even a year abroad. Among numerous other programs, students can travel to Panama, India, Honduras, Great Britain and Vietnam, all while earning Southern Miss credit that will plug directly into their degree plans.

David Garcia, a Southern Miss senior who had been to Iraq twice prior to studying abroad, chose to participate in the Vietnam program after his interest in Vietnam peaked while taking a class from Dr. Andrew Wiest. Garcia describes leaving his

comfort zone as a humbling experience. "The Vietnam Program is unique in that the small class of students is able to interact with a returning veteran," explained Garcia. In this case a veteran by the name of Pete Edwards was able to join Garcia's class. "What I did not anticipate with the Vietnam Program was how it helped me deal with my own feelings from Iraq. That wasn't an experience I expected. Mr. Pete went back to Vietnam and confronted everything that may have haunted him in his past. I guess I didn't realize how much that helped me until I got back."

Upon returning to the United States, Garcia reflected on his experience abroad and the investments he made to ensure his participation. "I can't say enough about how helpful everyone in International Education is. If there is money out there, they will help you find it. I don't have any reasons to be upset about taking out student loans to study abroad because those loans enabled me to go to Vietnam. For people who are doubtful, I don't regret it one bit. It was an experience worth paying for. It was priceless."

The study-abroad opportunities are abundant and growing each year. Southern Miss Professor of History Dr. Douglas Mackaman recently launched The Compass Program, a new paradigm program that encompasses affordable mobile learning. Participants in The Compass go to four European cities over the course of five weeks and obtain six academic credits throughout the process. Beginning in Amsterdam, they then travel to Berlin, Paris, and then wrap up the coursework in London, studying the course of European culture and European ideas from the Renaissance to the Holocaust.

Participants on The Compass Program are required to take one history course called The Needle, an all-encompassing course that mirrors an upper-division western civilization class taught in all four cities.

The second course participants enroll in is an upper-division class in one of several disciplines offered. "Meaning, just like a compass points in four directions, there are four points on our compass dial," explained Mackaman. "There are four dial courses." One is a psychology course called "Madness." Another is a history course about war in the 20th century titled "Battle Ground." The third course is an art photography class about the rise of the idea of the camera coined "Shutter Speed," and the last course is about the police state and espionage programs of the 19th and 20th centuries called "Spy Site."

The inaugural class of The Compass took flight May 24, and will finish all coursework and adjourn June 28, in London, where they are being hosted for a formal dinner at the Oxford Cambridge Club as one of the first university groups not from the United Kingdom to be welcomed into this club.

Students visit a variety of religious and historic sites, including the Taj Mahal show above in India, during the Religions of India Program each summer, led by Dr. Dan Capper.

"For people who are doubtful, I don't regret it one bit. It was an experience worth paying for. It was priceless."

—David Garcia

The Eiffel Tower located on the Champ de Mars in Paris.

History major, Derek Hedman, shows that integrating with the local community and culture is an integral part of studying abroad at Southern Miss.

As a graduate student majoring in French history, Mackaman had the opportunity to make a few archival research trips to France, specifically to Paris. While abroad, he fell in love with the experience of learning and getting to know France, about its language, history and culture, by actually immersing himself in the country rather than merely reading about it.

Naturally, when he arrived at Southern Miss, which was his first and only academic job out of college, he learned through the International Education department about the programs in Britain, France and other exchanges Southern Miss had around the world. "I was so excited to learn that my new university, my first job, was doing things that cool." With the encouragement of fellow colleague Dr. Andrew Wiest, Mackaman proposed a new program to the department than would span four countries, and so The Compass Program took flight.

From the creation of the Abbey Program in 2002 to the 2012 launch of The Compass Program, Mackaman and his fellow program faculty have inspired hundreds of students to study abroad.

An unabashed advocate for international programming, Mackaman believes students should want to study abroad. Independence, self-reliance and self-confidence are distinctive outcomes that emerge from pushing oneself and being tested by circumstances that are outside one's normal comfort zone: "When you study abroad, you face all the bumps in the road, and you learn to laugh about those bumps, strategize with all your friends and your professors, sort out your way forward, and you learn to have the confidence to succeed anywhere you go in life."

Luckyday Citizenship Scholarship Program Awards Study Abroad Scholarships for 2012

Did you know that the Luckyday Citizenship Scholarship Program at The University of Southern Mississippi offers 10 study abroad scholarships each year? Luckyday Scholars who have completed 30 credit hours and who are in their second year or higher at Southern Miss are eligible to apply for this scholarship. The award amount of each scholarship is $4,000, and it may be applied towards any program of the student's choice.

Recipients for study abroad in 2012 include, pictured from left, Silvano Daniels of Ridgeland; Casey Polk of Madison; Britney Kuehn of Ocean Springs; Scarlet Jones of Raleigh; Chelsea Strege of Ocean Springs; Ray Patten of Poplarville; Salma Dawoud of Hattiesburg; Karelia Schmitz of Poplarville; and Jasmine Whiteside of Hattiesburg. Also selected was Brandon Hersey of Hattiesburg.

Education Has No Borders: Bangla-Dash

By Marie Jahn '11, '12

Former Southern Miss baseball player Chris Hesse '98 moved to Bangladesh four years ago after he accepted a position as a physical education teacher at the International School Dhaka. During his time in the South Asia state, Hesse saw the need for education and decided to do something about it: "There are not enough schools or teachers to give all school-aged children a proper education. Plus, kids have to pay to go to school. When a family has several children, and they are living well below the poverty line, they have to make tough choices, and often times it is difficult to get kids into school." Partnering with colleague Marc Favre, a Melbourne, Australia, native, Hesse created Bangla-Dash, a fundraising campaign based around a 180-mile run, to help at least four schools in and around Dhaka. The slogan, "Education Has No Borders," highlights the course map, where Hesse and Favre covered approximately 45 miles per day over four days. The two ran from Kolkata, India, to Dhaka, Bangladesh, with the goal of raising $20,000 for the education of underprivileged Bangladeshi children.

Recent UNICEF data shows that only 67% of children in Bangladesh complete the last year of primary education.

"The greatest thing about this run was the people and sites we saw. Bangladesh is an amazingly beautiful country, and it was wonderful to experience it. I also enjoyed the people. They were welcoming and kind every step of the way."

Recent UNICEF data show that only 67% of children in Bangladesh complete the last year of primary education, meaning more that 30% exit school before completing the fifth grade. The cramped and overcrowded schoolrooms, under-trained teachers and lack of educational supplies are

Partnering with colleague Marc Favre, a Melbourne, Australia native, Chris Hesse based the fundraising campaign around a 180-mile run. The slogan "Education Has No Borders" highlights the course map, where Hesse and Favre covered approximately 45 miles per day over four days.

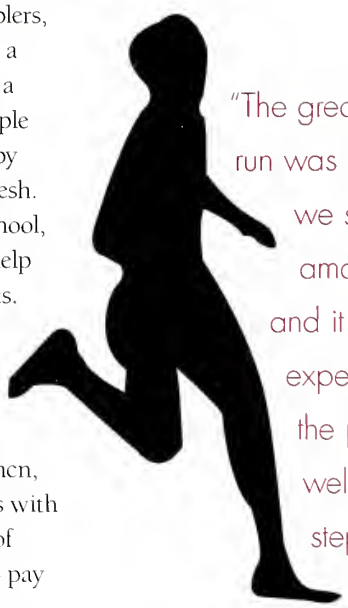
just some of the many obstacles Bangladeshi children face in regard to obtaining an education. "My heart goes out to all the teachers and students for their daily struggle to teach and learn with next to nothing."

With the money raised, Mr. Hesse and Mr. Favre hope to fund up to four schools in and around Dhaka. Of these, one is for a community of cobblers, who are among the lowest castes in the Hindu caste system. Another is a floating school for a community of river gypsies. The third is on a *char*, a sand island that forms naturally in the rivers of Bangladesh, where people live in relative isolation and poverty. These three schools are operated by the Subornogram Foundation, which is a registered charity in Bangladesh. The fourth school is in a slum of Dhaka and is operated by Solmaid School, a registered charity in both Bangladesh and Australia. The funds will help with the schools' infrastructure as well as teacher training and materials.

The decision to raise funds via running was inspired by Hesse's passion gained during his time as a Peace Corps Volunteer in Belize, Central America. A friend told him that he could train for a half marathon in four weeks. He survived the run, and that first race was the start of what would become a passion for Hesse. Since then, he has run at least one full marathon each year for the last eight years with many shorter races mixed in. Most recently, he has brought his love of running to his current school in support of another project to help to pay the fees of children that otherwise wouldn't be able to afford school.

Hesse and Favre completed their run on April 20 in Dhaka, arriving home tired, but safe to their families. The second and most important objective of raising $20,000 was also accomplished thanks mainly to the support and extreme generosity of the men's families and friends around the world.

For more information about Bangla-Dash or how to help, visit bangla-dash.com.



"The greatest thing about this run was the people and sites we saw. Bangladesh is an amazingly beautiful country, and it was wonderful to experience it. I also enjoyed the people. They were welcoming and kind every step of the way."

COASTAL CREATIVITY
Dana Wittmann Designs

By Jenny Boudreaux '08

More than 30 years ago, Dana Wittmann '81 and her husband Tommy '80 were married on the Hattiesburg campus of The University of Southern Mississippi. A Long Beach, Miss., native, Wittmann chose to attend Southern Miss not only because it had everything that she needed and wanted out of a college, but also the proximity of the University to the Mississippi Gulf Coast made it possible for her to return frequently to the area that she called home.

Growing up on the Gulf Coast was and always will be something Wittmann will cherish. "I love everything about the Gulf Coast," shared Wittmann. "The beautiful beach, the Gulf and bayous, the islands, the food and most of all, its kind people. All of those characteristics are my inspiration for most of the things I paint."

In 2005, after Hurricane Katrina swept through the Gulf Coast, unleashing its wrath on everything in its path, Wittmann decided to slow down and enjoy life a little more. One of the ways in which she did this was through painting, a creative outlet her mother Helen taught her at a very young age. "My mother was a true artist, painting on anything and everything," said Wittmann. "Even today, she remains my inspiration. It's because of her encouragement that I launched my pottery line."

What began as a mere dream for Wittmann has become over night, a nationally distributed line. After being persuaded by her mother to place her pottery in a craft show in December of 2006, stores began calling, showing interest in selling Wittmann's pieces, and the feedback from the public was astounding.

Wittmann and her two daughters, Kristi, who assists her mother with the Mardi Gras line, and Marian, at their home in Gulfport, Miss.

> "My hope is that these pieces will bless people's home like they have mine and my family and friends."

In 2009, Wittmann had the opportunity to partner with Caffco International to produce her hand-painted pottery; thus Dana Wittmann Designs was born. "Pottery orders were coming in faster than I could fill them," explained Wittmann. "The company has allowed me to continue to be creative while guiding me throughout this venture. I feel so blessed."

This is a blessing Wittmann does not take for granted. A cross marks each piece in her line. "I honor God with a signature cross by my name on each of my pieces," Wittmann said. "It's my symbol thanking God for the talent He has given me."

In addition to marking each of her pieces, Wittmann gives a percentage of everything she sells to New Beginnings Missions, a non-profit prayer ministry she and her mother founded in 2000. Slightly different than an average ministry, Wittmann and her team, made up of many Christian denominations, meet once a week and pray for people in need. Since its formation, New Beginnings Missions has prayed with more than 12,000 people on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. "A lot of people do not have anyone to pray for them so we stop and pray with people. We all work together to help those that are hurting. It is what we are meant to do, share God's love."

Sharing God's love and beauty is a prevalent theme in Wittmann's life, and she is successful in doing so in many ways. Today, Dana Wittmann Designs can be found in more than 500 retail stores in the United States and the Virgin Islands and her pottery line is steadily continuing to grow.

With the addition of a new dragonfly line debuting in the fall of 2012 and a new canvas line, multiple projects are in the works for Wittmann. Fortunately, her oldest daughter Kristi '10, who is exceptionally talented at creating and painting Wittmann's Mardi Gras pottery line, has stepped in to assist her mother. "A kitchen and bath designer, Kristi displays her architectural background in most of the designs she creates," Wittmann shared. "She'll be the one taking over the business one day. She's extremely good at design, and people just love the Mardi Gras line."

Wittmann's teenage daughter Marian has her own unique style of creating and is quite talented at portraits. "Like my mother, when Marian gets an idea, she does it. Being an incoming high school senior keeps her busy, but at some point I fully expect her to join our family business. I am so proud of both of my daughters."

The older Wittmann grows, the more appreciative of living and raising her family on the Gulf Coast she becomes, which is shown through her art work. "I love bright, fun colors and everything reflective of Coastal life," expressed Wittmann. "My hope is that these pieces will bless people's homes like they have mine and my family and friends."

For more information on Dana Wittmann Designs, please visit danawdesigns.com.

ENCORE

Partners for the Arts
Encore into an Exciting Future

The halls are filled with the sounds of student musicians perfecting their craft; the stroke of a brush highlights the soul of a painting; gracefully hanging from an aerial harness, a dancer spins into the night. These artistic expressions fill the heart, culturally enrich our lives, teach those who are here to learn, and are generously funded by a diligent and dedicated cadre of individuals.

Since its inception in 1997, Partners for the Arts has been the external driving force in providing funding for various musical performances, dance concerts, art and sculpture exhibits, and performances by nationally acclaimed artists.

This dynamic group of alumni and friends insure that the arts flourish in the Hattiesburg and Greater Gulf South region.

Partners for the Arts for 2012-13 echo the encore of the years past, the present and the future. Come join Partners for an encore. The shows must go on -- now more than ever. For more information, call 601.266.5922.

"As Partners eagerly begins its 15th year of support and service to the arts, it is my privilege to extend an invitation, and I strongly encourage your support by joining Partners and becoming a part of the continuing and constantly changing work of enhancing the arts."

Jim Dukes Jr.
Chair

"I am proud to be a part of a community where we have so many opportunities to experience the arts. Through Partners for the Arts, my family can support the arts and make an impact on the quality of life in our community."

Linda Boutwell Griffith
First Vice Chair

"The arts have the power to educate, inspire and connect people of all ages and backgrounds. Supporting the arts through a membership in Partners is a way to invest in the future of the Pine Belt."

Jennifer Payne
Second Vice Chair

"Being a member of Partners for the Arts allows you the opportunity to provide financial support for the arts at The University of Southern Mississippi, which benefits the community by providing access to arts education, artists, musicians, actors, dance programs and events."

Bill McLeod
Past Chair

Partners for the Arts

Arts and Letters Engages Community Through Artistic and Cultural Events

The College of Arts and Letters plays an active role in events that involve diverse communities in the Gulf South. Arts and Letters has been a proud sponsor of the Live at 5 Concert Series in Town Square Park since its inception in April of 2008. This series, the brainchild of Hattiesburg architect Sarah Newton, stages family-friendly concerts in the heart of downtown Hattiesburg every Friday night in April and in October. Despite the occasional rain out, this series has prospered and now attracts more than 1,000 listeners from all walks of life each Friday evening. The music has ranged from local blues favorites like Vasti Jackson, T-Bone Pruitt, and Dr. E and the Voodoo Kings, to klezmer and Cajun groups. Live at 5 has also hosted nights of Irish music and cool acoustic jazz. Regional and national acts like Grupo Fantasma and Snarky Puppy round out the offerings.

Arts and Letters has been an active sponsor of the Golden Eagle Intertribal Society (GEIS) Pow Wow for many years. This year, with the generous support of the Mississippi Humanities Council, the 10th Annual GEIS Pow Wow hosted more than 400 school children for demonstrations of American Indian cultural heritage. Representatives from American Indian communities in the region demonstrated arts techniques like basket making and beading, while other Native Americans delighted the children with their songs, stories and dances. The Pow Wow also hosted a booth on native plants and their uses that featured a bog of pitcher plants. School Day even featured a Choctaw stickball game and a blowgun demonstration by Choctaw Harold "Doc" Comby.

Dancers from throughout the region competed in the Pow Wow, which was held this year in "The District"—the prime tailgating zone in front of the Ogletree House. GEIS advisor and director of Southern Miss' Center for American Indian Research and Studies (CAIRS), Dr. Tammy Greer, explained, "This was some of the best dancing we have ever had." GEIS President Danielle Isaacs (Social Work) and recent Southern Miss graduate, Tyler Meador, were the guiding forces for the Pow Wow success, and musicology professor Dr. Chris Goertzen also played an active role in the Pow Wow. Arts and Letters' entertainment industry junior Demi Pritchard coordinated the sound system for the drums and the singers.

The GEIS Pow Wow and Live at 5 collaborated this year to host a concert on Saturday afternoon featuring Cocoa Creppel and the Cannes Brulees. This swam-stomp band, headed by United Houma Nation member, Cocoa Creppel, delighted the crowd with rocking tunes that captured the struggles of the Houma people and other Native Americans. From "Fry Bread Woman" to "Don't Lose Hope" Creppel and his band cranked out tunes that made the crowd laugh and think. The band warmed the crowd up for the evening Pow Wow despite the unseasonal chill in the air.

Dr. David Echevarria, a Southern Miss psychology professor, plays with his band Dr. E the Mississippi Voodoo Kings, while Paul Linden, assistant professor in the School of Mass Communication and Journalism, plays the harmonica at Live at 5.

Native American dancer performs at the Pow Wow held at The District on the Hattiesburg campus.

The First University of Southern Mississippi Undergraduate Research Conference

The last several undergraduate research conferences were limited to the College of Arts and Letters, but the award winners represent the diversity of research and educational opportunities available across the Southern Miss campus.

Undergraduate research is central to the mission of a university. It's the point where students not only prove that they have mastered the methods of their field but venture for the first time beyond memorizing what other people have written to creating knowledge for themselves and the world. And the best undergraduate research at Southern Miss is very good indeed. The first University-wide Undergraduate Research Conference was created to showcase the students' accomplishments and to encourage them in their endeavors.

The University event had its start three years ago in one of the many departmental research events conducted around campus, in this case in the History department. It grew to include the entire College of Arts and Letters, thanks to a donor who provided encouragement and awards for outstanding projects. Two years of the College of Arts and Letters Undergraduate Research Conference was enough time to think through the basic organization and the decision was made to go University-wide.

On April 21, 65 students gathered in the Liberal Arts Building and presented their research projects to audiences of their peers, faculty members and families. It was a day of learning, discussion and a lot of fun. Geography students found out what Religion majors do; physics and biology students learned about each other's methods. Everyone enjoyed being part of a community of scholars that reached beyond particular disciplines. They also enjoyed an inspiring (and at times very funny) plenary lecture by President Martha Saunders.

Last but not least came the award presentations. Thanks to the generosity of the vice president for research, the academic deans, and the donor who first inspired the conference, there were awards for "best project" in 12 categories, as well as a "best in college" award for each college. More than 30 faculty members from across both campuses volunteered to judge the various categories, which included the best use of laboratory, interviewing, analytical and theoretical method, as well as the best projects on community service, public policy, race and ethnicity, gender, international affairs and leadership. There was even an award for best presentational style, for which students had to tape their presentations at the campus Speaking Center. Students in 20 different departments won awards, ranging from advertising to sociology. Plans are already underway for a second annual conference in spring 2013, as undergraduate research increasingly becomes a central goal of the University.

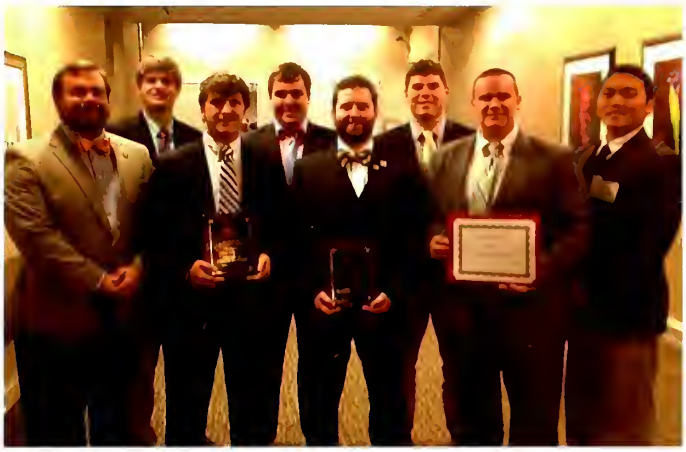
Vice President for Research and University Provost Dennis Wiesenberg recognizes Tahseen Shams and her paper on "Being Muslim in Mississippi." Shams, a Sociology major, took first place for "Best Paper Dealing with an International or Transnational Issue" and second place for "Best Paper Dealing with Race and Ethnicity."

It's All Greek to Me: Fall Recruitment, Rush and Intake

Making up more than 14% of the full-time undergraduate population at Southern Miss, the 25 Greek Life chapters are in preparation for this fall's upcoming membership intake process. With 18 University-owned chapter houses and a distinct dedication to uplift the community, enrich the lives of its members, promote collegiality among and between its peers, and bring favor and distinction to the alma mater, Southern Miss Greek Life is continuing to prosper. Each of the three councils, CPC, IFC and NPHC, are working to boost interest in and appreciation for Greek Life.

The College Panhellenic Council (CPC), which governs the seven National Panhellenic Conference sororities on campus, coordinates several events on campus including educational programs/speakers, community service projects, Greek Week and Formal Recruitment. Recruitment for the 2012-13 year will take place September 6-11, and will consist of five themed days where potential new members are introduced to each chapter. The days grow progressively more serious in tone as chapters and potential new members participate in a mutual selection process. Nikki Snellman, vice president of the College Panhellenic Council, will work throughout the recruitment process to help potential new members find their home in Southern Miss Greek Life: "The recruitment process helps a young woman find an individual chapter where she feels most comfortable and best fits. It is my goal to share with potential sorority members how to become the women they always wanted to be and find their place within our seven on campus. I truly believe in the recruitment process and the way it works for every young woman that participates."

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) is the national coordinating body for the nine historically African American Fraternities and Sororities, which do not restrict membership to African Americans. The council is made up of seven elected positions and is advised by Valencia Walls, Coordinator of Greek Life.

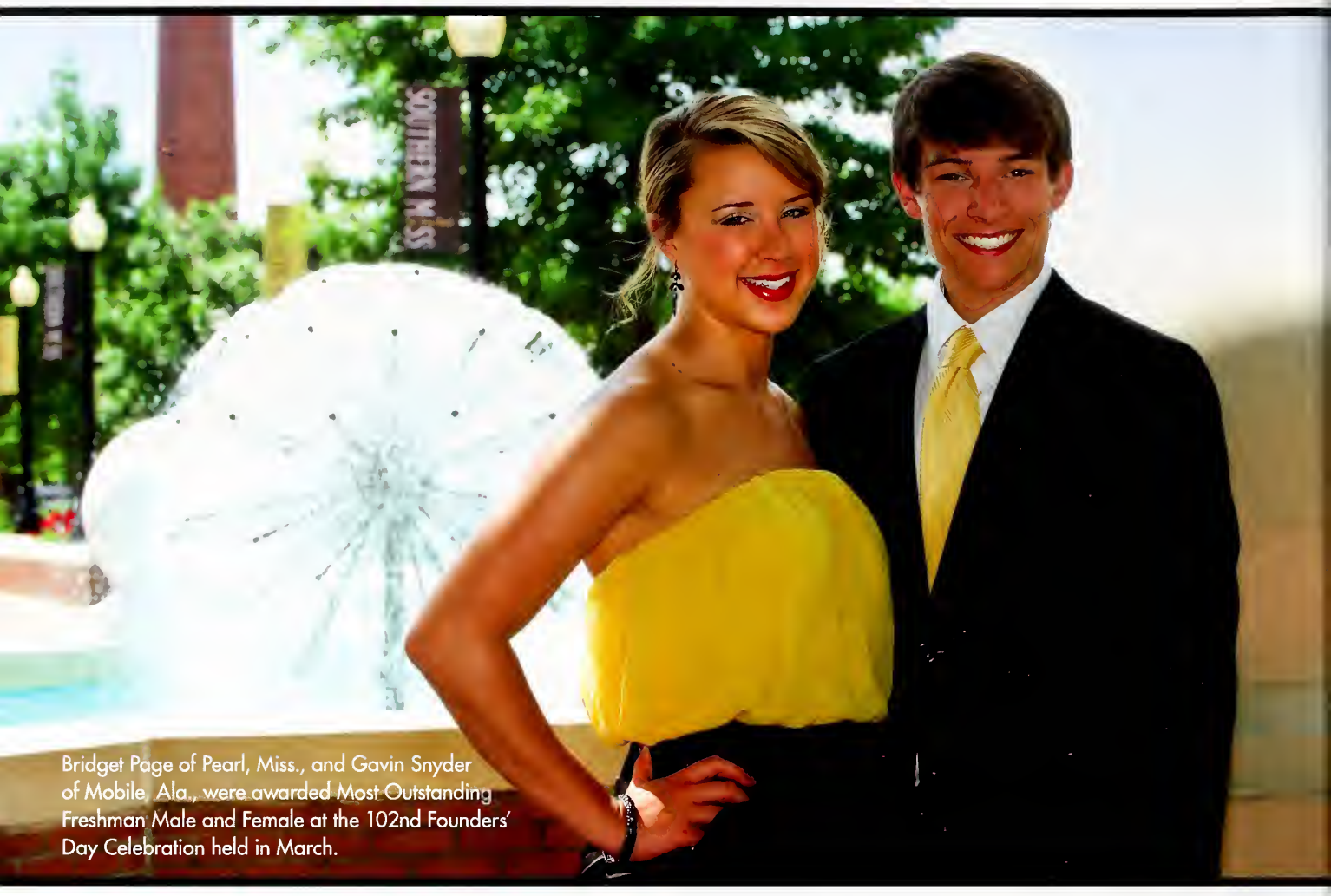


The Interfraternity Council (IFC) is the governing body for member fraternities on campus, and is made up of undergraduate male students. The IFC council is made up of seven elected positions and is advised by Josh Schutts, Assistant Dean of Students for Greek Life.

The Interfraternity Council (IFC) is the governing body for member fraternities on campus and remains in a perpetual state of recruitment (a.k.a. "rush"). As each of the fraternities are constantly hosting recruitment activities, September and February tend to be when most recruitment events occur. While individual chapters host specific events, the IFC also hosts events that include all chapters. Keenan Dollar, a senior public relations major and Mobile, Ala., native, currently serves as president of the Interfraternity Council. "The Interfraternity Council recently switched from a formal style of recruitment, where every new member visits all the houses during a one week span, to a more open style of recruitment where chapters can sign members whenever they want up until Bid Day. The number of new members has gone up by nearly 40% since making this change." IFC rush is free to participate in, while the bid fee is $50 and can be paid with cash or check to Southern Miss Greek Life.

The National Pan-Hellenic Council (NPHC) organizations select members through a process called Membership Intake. Membership Intake is the process of selecting, educating and initiating new members into an NPHC chapter. This process is prescribed by the national organization. Students interested in any of the NPHC chapters must have completed at least 12 Southern Miss credit hours and be enrolled at Southern Miss with a 2.5 or higher cumulative grade point average. Interested students are encouraged to check out the national websites for the various NPHC organizations and to attend events sponsored by the local chapters.

No matter the council, potential Greek members at Southern Miss are welcome to express interest in joining an organization. The Office of Greek Life at Southern Miss strives to promote a distinguished Greek experience and can be contacted at 601.266.4823 or usm.edu/greeklife.



Bridget Page of Pearl, Miss., and Gavin Snyder of Mobile, Ala., were awarded Most Outstanding Freshman Male and Female at the 102nd Founders' Day Celebration held in March.

TWO MOST OUTSTANDING FRESHMEN

By Marie John '11, '12

Since arriving to campus this past fall, Gavin Snyder and Bridget Page have made the most of their freshman year. The two were recognized as Most Outstanding Freshman Male and Female at the 102nd Founders' Day Celebration. The award, which strives to distinguish students who have positively impacted campus early in their collegiate careers, is a two-step selection process. A group of freshmen students are selected, and from that group, a Most Outstanding Freshman Male and Most Outstanding Freshman Female are chosen.

Gavin Snyder, a Mobile, Ala., native and communication studies major, credits the abundance of student activities and opportunities to get involved as what drew him to Southern Miss: "Being actively involved in high school, I was looking for that same experience in a university. With more than 200

clubs and student organizations, I was able to find my place on campus and make a difference for the betterment of our University and the Hattiesburg community." He is a Leadership Scholar and has been involved with several organizations on campus such as the Student Government Association and Southern Miss Activities Council. Gavin has served on various committees such as the Homecoming, Eaglepalooza, Lighting the Way and the Big Event committees, as well as Relay for Life. He also served as president of Freshman Associates.

An indication of his involvement at Southern Miss is his favorite spot on campus: "The Student Activities Hub is the central location for all activities and clubs here on campus. In between class or when I have free time, you can almost always find me there. Melissa Carpenter and all of the student workers are a vital part of my school day. Being in the Hub allows me to reflect on all the experiences I have had so far, and helps me to look forward to all I will have in the future."

As for being recognized as Most Outstanding Freshman Male, Gavin admits shock when he first received his invitation to attend Founders' Day: "My first thought was, 'How do these people know me?'" Once he arrived at Bennett Auditorium, he saw that his reserved seat was not, as he originally thought, in the audience, but on the stage instead. "I was filled with excitement … all of our hard work and great effort had been seen. I could not ask for a better ending to a first year of college."

As a bonus, Gavin and Bridget are close friends, and the two share a passion for involvement and success.

Bridget Page, an elementary education major and Pearl native, is a member of the Dixie Darlings, the Student Government Association and the Baptist Student Union. She is a Luckyday Scholar, where she was selected to be on the Luckyday Leadership Team, and has held leadership roles in Relay for Life and Freshman Associates. Bridget has also served on the Lighting the Way, Miss Southern Miss pageant and Eaglepalooza committees.

"With more than 200 clubs and student organizations, I was able to find my place on campus and make a difference for the betterment of our University and the Hattiesburg community."

Bridget thanks previous Southern Miss alumni for providing the opportunities for involvement and success for her: "I take pride in knowing that Southern Miss has one of the best alumni groups in the world. We would not be where we are today without the alumni that took the initiative and left Southern Miss better than they found it. I hope to carry on that tradition of excellence."

While she is most deserving of the recognition, Bridget is humble about her Most Outstanding Freshman Female award. "Never would I have imagined sitting on the first row on the stage at Founders' Day. I went into college with big hopes and knew I would work really hard, but I also knew that many other people would do that as well. Being recognized is truly an honor, and I hope to be a positive role model to encourage others to never give up on their dreams."

When asked about her favorite Southern Miss memory, Bridget describes her first game day strut with the Dixie Darlings, which happened to take place in a torrential downpour: "This wasn't the strut we had practiced. This was a strut with wind blowing, water to our knees, and soaking wet hair in our faces. I have been dancing for 12 years, but dancing in a tropical storm was by far the most unique experience."

As the two complete their first year at Southern Miss, the recognition from Founders' Day resonates into goals for future success. While Gavin aspires to start a new campus tradition in his recently selected role of assistant Homecoming director, Bridget hopes to become a member of the Southern Style orientation team. The two have also recently received recognition within the Student Government Association, having been named Male Freshman Associates Member of the Year and Female Freshman Associates Member of the Year, respectively. In regards to their individual success and a shared goal for leaving Southern Miss better than they found it, Gavin Snyder and Bridget Page are deserving recipients of the 2012 Most Outstanding Freshman Male and Female awards.

Tyndall Takes Over as New Southern Miss Men's Basketball Coach

Donnie Tyndall was introduced as the new men's basketball coach at Southern Miss during a news conference held April 30.

Donnie Tyndall has been named the 19th head coach in the history of the Southern Miss men's basketball program, announced today at a press conference held on campus.

Tyndall comes to Southern Miss after heading up the Morehead State basketball program for the last six years. Since 2006, Tyndall has amassed a 114-85 overall record, including a 70-40 mark in the Ohio Valley Conference.

"I am excited to announce Donnie Tyndall as the new head basketball coach at The University of Southern Mississippi," said Southern Miss Interim Athletic Director Jeff Hammond. "I have gotten to know Coach Tyndall well over the course of the interview process. He is a person of high character and morals that will make an immediate impact on and off the court. His energy and enthusiasm are contagious. There are not many opportunities when you can hire a current Division I head basketball coach who has six years of Division I head coaching experience, 114 Division I victories, and two NCAA tournament appearances on his résumé. We are extremely excited to have Coach Tyndall join the Southern Miss family."

The Grand Rapids, Mich., native has led the Eagles to postseason play three of the past four years, advancing to the NCAA Tournament in 2009 and 2011.

Tyndall took over Morehead State in 2006, inheriting a squad that finished 4-23 the previous year. Tyndall immediately made his mark on the school, improving the team's win total in each of his first five years. His squads won at least 20 games from 2008-11 after Morehead State reached the 20-win plateau just twice in its history prior to his arrival.

Tyndall's first squad tripled their win total from the previous year, finishing the year 12-18. The following season, the Eagles were picked 10th in the Ohio Valley Conference preseason poll. However, MSU finished 15-15 overall and third in the conference, earning 2008 OVC Coach of the Year honors.

Things really came together in 2008-09. The Eagles went 24-11, winning the Ohio Valley Conference and making their first NCAA Tournament appearance since 1984. MSU faced Alabama State in the First Four, defeating the Hornets before falling to Louisville in the second round.

In 2009-10, Morehead State again improved its win total, going 24-11 and making it to the second round of the College Basketball Invitational. That year, *Athlon's Sports Magazine* deemed him one of the Top 10 Under the Radar Coaches.

Tyndall had his best season yet in 2010-11. The Eagles set a Morehead State record for wins, finishing 25-10. They also won their second OVC Championship under Tyndall and advanced to the NCAA Tournament for the second time, defeating Louisville in the second round. For his efforts, Tyndall was recognized as the National Association of Basketball Coaches (NABC) District Coach of the Year.

Under Tyndall's tutelage, Kenneth Faried became a two-time OVC Player of the Year, an All-American and the NCAA's all-time leading rebounder on his way to becoming the 22nd overall pick in the NBA Draft by the Denver Nuggets.

Last year, the Eagles finished 18-15 and finished third in the OVC.

Prior to Morehead State, Tyndall served as an assistant coach at Iowa Central Community College (1993-96), head coach at St. Catharine College (1996-97), assistant coach at LSU (1997-01), and associate head coach at Idaho (2001-02) and Middle Tennessee (2002-06).

At Middle Tennessee, Tyndall helped the Blue Raiders average 17 wins per season while helping to lead them to four consecutive winning seasons. As the recruiting coordinator, Tyndall twice earned MTSU Top 25 recruiting classes in 2003 and 2004. Both classes were also ranked No. 1 in the Sun Belt Conference.

In his only year at Idaho, Tyndall helped the Vandals land the No. 15 recruiting class in the country in 2002.

During his time at LSU, Tyndall helped recruit three classes that were ranked in the Top 25 nationally, including the top ranked class in 1998. He coached five players who earned All-SEC honors, four of which went on to play in the NBA. In 2000, he helped the Tigers win the SEC Championship and advance to the Sweet 16, ranking 10th in the final AP Poll.

In his one season as the head coach of St. Catharine, Tyndall led the team to a school-record 30-5 mark and its first ever appearance in the National Junior College Athletic Association (NJCAA) National Tournament. That year, he was named Region 7 National Coach of the Year, Kentucky Junior College Coach of the Year and Kentucky-Tennessee Junior College Coach of the Year.

Added Hammond, "I would like to thank our wonderful dedicated and diverse selection committee that worked tirelessly to find the best basketball coach for Southern Miss. We received a tremendous amount of interest in this job from across the country. Coach Tyndall was the only coach offered the job and the unanimous choice of the selection committee. Southern Miss basketball is in great hands will Coach Tyndall leading the way."

Tyndall played collegiately at Morehead State from 1990-93. He earned his bachelor's degree from Morehead State in 1993 and his master's degree from LSU in 2000.

Tyndall has two daughters, Taylor Elise and Grace Elizabeth.

Scan this QR code to view an interview with John Cox, voice of the Golden Eagles, and Men's Basketball Coach Donnie Tyndall.

2012 Football Away Game Tickets Now on Sale

Tickets for the six 2012 Southern Miss away football games are now on sale through the Southern Miss ticket office.

The Golden Eagles open up on the road September 1, at Nebraska. Ticket prices are $65 for Nebraska and the priority deadline to purchase tickets for this game is June 29. Due to limited tickets for this game, the ticket office will only take orders from Eagle Club members and/or season ticket holders until the deadline. Should any tickets remain, they will go on sale to the general public July 2 on a first-come, first-served basis. Nebraska tickets can only be purchased in person or by phone at 1.800.844.TICK (8425).

As for the other five road contests, tickets costs are $15 for Western Kentucky in Bowling Green, on September 22; $30 for UCF in Orlando on October 13, $20 for Rice in Houston on October 27; $35 for SMU in Dallas on November 10, and $30 for Memphis at Liberty Bowl Memorial Stadium.

Tickets for the final five away contests can be purchased by logging onto SouthernMissTickets.com, by calling 1.800.844.TICK (8425) or by visiting the Ferlise Ticket Office from 8 a.m. until 5 p.m., Monday through Friday.

2012 GOLDEN EAGLE FOOTBALL SCHEDULE

Sept. 1	at Nebraska
Sept. 8	BYE
Sept. 15	EAST CAROLINA
Sept. 22	at Western Kentucky
Sept. 29	LOUISVILLE
Oct. 6	BOISE STATE
Oct. 13	at UCF
Oct. 20	MARSHALL*
Oct. 27	at Rice
Nov. 3	UAB
Nov. 10	at SMU
Nov. 17	UTEP
Nov. 24	at Memphis

*Homecoming

Morrison Hired as Associate Athletics Director for Major Gifts

Brian Marrison

The Southern Miss Department of Athletics has announced the hiring of Brian Morrison as associate athletics director for Major Gifts.

"The Athletics department holds Brian Morrison in great regard, and we are thrilled that he is bringing his talents and his passion back to us after serving the USM Foundation in tremendous fashion over the last year," said Interim Director of Athletics Jeff Hammond. "Brian is a wonderful ambassador for our University and we look forward to him getting out in the community and spreading the word about Golden Eagle Athletics."

Morrison returns to the Golden Eagle Athletic department after spending the last 14 months as a development officer for The University of Southern Mississippi Foundation, where his duties included identifying prospects for major and planned gifts while developing and updating lists of potential donors.

In addition, he cultivated, solicited and stewarded alumni, friends and organizations for major gifts, as well as coordinated the process of receiving gifts donated to the University for scholarships, naming opportunities and endowments.

Morrison also assisted with the USM Foundation hospitality events as well as communicated with college deans and University departments to assist them with their funding needs and to expose their programs and students to alumni and organizations.

Francesconi, Seymour Named Student-Athletes of the Year

Brandon Francesconi and Kelsea Seymour were named the Southern Miss Male and Female Student-Athletes of the Year at the department's recent year-end Student Academic Honors program at the Thad Cochran Center.

Francesconi, a business administration major and member of the Golden Eagle football team, played in all 14 games at linebacker and finished with six solo tackles and 12 assists including 1.5 tackles for loss.

The Burlingame, Calif., native has a 3.760 cumulative GPA and was a C-USA Academic Medalist. He was selected to attend the 2012 NCAA Career in Sports Forum.

Seymour, a member of the school's volleyball squad, capped off her final season earning AVCA All-Midwest Region first team honors and honor mention AVCA All-American honors for the second consecutive year.

The Long Beach, Calif., native also came away with the top team honor, the Sharon Montgomery Award, awarded to the team's most valuable player. Seymour was named the Conference USA Setter of the Year, first team All-C-USA while earning C-USA Setter of the Week three times. She finished her career with 4,635 assists for a 10.05 per set average, 77 aces and 1,223 digs.

She has been named to the C-USA Commissioner's Honor Roll four years and is a President's List Scholar, a five-time Dean's List Scholar and Academic Director's Honor Roll honoree.

Cintas Carparatian executives present the Southern Miss Male and Female Student-Athlete Aword at the recent year-end Student Academic Honors Program.

100 YEARS OF ATHLETICS
SOUTHERN MISS

Are You a Centurion?

The Southern Miss Department of Athletics has announced its one-time Centurion Program in an effort to celebrate 100 years of championships and commencements.

The Centurion Program allows new members of the Eagle Club to make an initial donation of $100 in 2012 to become a Centurion. Current Eagle Club members can also become Centurions by making an additional $100 donation above last year's contribution when renewing their memberships.

Each individual will receive a commemorative certificate acknowledging him or her as a Centurion.

The time to become involved is now! For more information, call 601.266.or visit SouthernMiss.com/Eagle-Club

Eagle Club Member Spotlight

With a love of martial arts and the medical industry, it was only logical for John Chioco to become the newest addition to The University of Southern Mississippi Eagle Club at the University that pushed him in his first steps toward success. Chioco is the vice president of professional services at South Central Regional Medical Center, where he oversees the proper care and treatment of patients at South Central Regional Medical Center's 13 clinics and in the surrounding Jones County area.

Spending most of his childhood in Meridian, the Mississippian found that it was a relatively easy decision to become a Golden Eagle and attributes much of that to the reputation and popularity the school has consistently kept throughout the many years. Graduating in 1983, Chioco earned a business administration degree from The University of Southern Mississippi School of Business. He claims that much of the experience gained through a nationally accredited business college at Southern Miss helped significantly in his profession. Besides higher education, martial arts play a vital role in delivering professionalism and character in the vice president's working environment in the medical services realm.

Since 1973, Chioco has diligently gained stardom in karate. He is currently a member of the AAU/USA International Team, and has been victorious in countless battles against many other well-known faces in hand-to-hand combat. The fifth-degree black belt is also a 16-time Mississippi Karate Association State Champion and the 2011 AAU National Champion. But Chioco does not only dish blows and kicks, he also spends much of his time teaching the public the art that has shaped his life in such a positive way.

And in turn, the satisfaction of mentoring other people in the ways of discipline in life and at the office is paramount to the Southern Miss alumnus. In the way he gives back to martial arts, he does the same to benefit the University that awards a valuable education to those that pursue it. For Chioco and countless others, remaining a part of the Golden Eagle family means remaining a part of tradition.

John Chioco

When you pack your bags for a vacation, be sure to coordinate your wardrobe with black and gold attire and bring along a camera. Send photos* of yourself, your family and friends, and we will print as many as space allows in a future edition of Snapshots.

Above: Tom Lynch '86 and wife Sheri visited iNzingo, Kwa-zulu Natal, South Africa, with their daughter Miranda, to oversee operations for Isipho, a nonprofit organization founded by Miranda to provide sustainable vegetable gardens and a library to the village.

Bottom Left: Fulton Ascherl, son of John and Stefanie Fulton Ascherl '90, holds one of the prosthetic tails belonging to Winter, the famous dolphin from the movie *Dolphin Tale*. Fulton was able to see Winter and learn all about her while visiting the Clearwater Marine Aquarium in Florida during Spring Break.

Bottom Right: Southern Miss Alumni Association Life Members Paul and Phyllis Smith Trochesset '86 were honored with their daughter, Brooke, and friend, Krislyn Clinton, both of whom placed first in the Southern Miss Science Olympiad. The two are eighth graders at North Wallmarket Middle School in Biloxi, Miss. Brooke is the granddaughter of Enoch Franklin Smith and Ann Marshall Smith.

Right: Julie Andersan Suttan '73, '78, Linda Rainey Keys '74, Anges McCarty Foster '73, '98 and Susan Halt Doss '74 recently celebrated 40 years of Sauthern Miss friendship after living in Hillcrest residence hall during their college days.

Below: Kristie Pearce Raberts '00 and her family were seasan ticket halders until this past fall, when they moved to Siliguri, West Bengal, India. Visitars ta the Roberts' home are welcamed by Sauthern Miss paraphernalia, and the family watches as many games as passible over Slingbox. Kristie's husband, James, and daughter, Rebekah, enjoyed celebrating the Galden Eagle victory while watching last December's bowl appearance.

***For printing purpases, please save or scan your photas at a resalution of 300 dpi. If you have any questions, cantact the Alumni Assaciatian at 601.266.5013.**

Now is your chance to catch up on the news and accomplishments of your fellow Golden Eagles. To submit your news to The Talon, please send your information to the Southern Miss Alumni Association, 118 College Drive #5013, Hattiesburg, MS 39406-0001, email alumni@usm.edu or post it online at SouthernMissAlumni.com. All cities are in Mississippi unless otherwise noted.

1960s

CHARLOTTE TULLOS '63, '65, '80, associate provost for student success and dean of students at the University of North Texas at Dallas, was recently nominated with fellow higher education student services administrators to be recognized as "Pillars of the Profession." The recognition was given during the annual national conference sponsored by NASPA—Student Affairs Administrators in Higher Education in Phoenix, Ariz., March 10-14. During her 30 years in the student affairs profession—with more than 20 years as a vice president—she has worked at a large research institution, a private college, a small state university and a mid-sized regional university.

1970s

GEORGE PHILLIPS '71 of Sumrall has begun his second term as a member of the Executive Committee for the American Quarter Horse Association. This five-person committee is responsible for implementing important decisions made by AQHA members through the board of directors. Phillips is a longtime breeder of quarter horses and past president of the Mississippi Quarter Horse Association. He has been an AQHA member for more than 30 years, served on AQHA's board of directors, served as a member of the Association's public policy committee and as a "Q-Contact," who fostered relationships with members of Congress. He and wife Nicole have three children: Garrison, 21; Margaret, 20; and Mary 17.

JOHN '74 and **SARAH ODOM '72** welcomed their first granddaughter, Grace Kathryn, on October 25, 2011, to parents **CHRIS '02** and Heather Odom of Hattiesburg.

DANNY J. MOORE '78 has joined PriorityOne Bank as a financial adviser for PriorityOne Financial Services in Hattiesburg. He previously worked at Edward Jones Investments for four years and First State Bank for 18 years. Moore holds a BS from The University of Southern Mississippi and is a graduate of the University of Mississippi's School of Banking as well as the Graduate School of Banking of the South at Louisiana State University. Moore holds series 7 & 66 licenses. Moore and his wife, Marie, have three children; Cheston, Ian and Jamie.

FRANCES BULLOCK '78 is now the owner of 98 West Properties, LLC.

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1980s

CHERYL SLAUGHTER ELLIS '80, professor of community and public health in Middle Tennessee State University's Department of Health and Human Performance, is the recipient of the university's 2012 John Pleas Faculty Recognition Award. The award is presented each year to an MTSU faculty member who has contributed significantly to the teaching, research and service of African-Americans. In addition to her extensive community health and wellness education efforts, including the popular National Youth Sports Program at MTSU, Ellis is a member of the honors and graduate faculty at MTSU. She is a native of Jackson, Miss., and a graduate of Jackson State University, The University of Southern Mississippi and the University of Tennessee-Knoxville. As an advocate for community and public health, Ellis, a certified health-education specialist, has appeared as a guest on numerous radio and TV programs. In collaboration with Nashville's Meharry Medical College and MTSU, she has presented and coordinated hundreds of health education programs, including workshops, fairs and seminars, in nearly two dozen Tennessee counties.

James M. and **PAMELA HILL KIRBY '80** announced the birth of their first grandchild, Olivia Owen Kirby, born February 2, 2012. Olivia was welcomed by parents Brian and Kelly Kirby of Madison, Miss., and great-grandfather **DALTON HILL '49.**

DIANA CHANDLER '81 of News Orleans, La., has been named as a staff writer for Baptist Press, the news service of the Southern Baptist Convention. Chandler has been a freelance writer since 2008. Her work for Baptist Press has included coverage of last year's

Dr. Gail Megason '81

For 19 years, Dr. Gail Megason '81 has enhanced the lives of many children throughout Mississippi. Recently, Megason has been appointed as the clinical medical director of the UMMC Cancer Institute. This is a new role in the Cancer Institute, which will help to further develop and support clinical activities, clinical trials, and integrate research and clinical services. In addition to her new role, Dr. Megason will continue in her current positions in the Department of Pediatrics and Batson Children's Hospital as executive vice chair and Pullen Professor of Pediatric Hematology/Oncology; director, Division of Pediatric Hematology Oncology; and director, Pediatric Stem Cell Program.

As director of the Division of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology at the University of Mississippi Medical Center, Megason is responsible for providing hope to children battling cancer. Her extensive training in core blood transplants has given many of her patients a new lease on life and has helped the University of Mississippi Medical Center earn a reputation as one of the best children's cancer treatment centers in the Gulf Coast region. Since her arrival, the hospitol has performed two cord blood transplants on sickle patients, three on patients with Hurler's syndrome, and 11 on patients with leukemia.

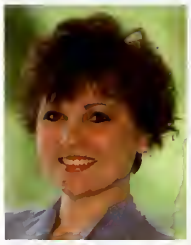
In addition to her duties as a division director, Megason is also a professor at the medical center. In this role, she has aided in the development of the state's best doctors. More importantly, Megason's research has brought innovative treatments for pediatric cancer to the Gulf Coast. Megason's research in hematology and oncology has also allowed her to become one of the most prominent scholars in her field. She has been featured in several academic publications, including the Journal of Pediatric Hematology and Oncology.

Megason is also a member of the American Society of Hematology (ASH), which works to further the understonding, diagnosis, treatment and prevention of disorders affecting the blood, bone marrow, and the immunologic, hemostatic and vascular systems. The ASH also promotes research, clinical care, education, training and advocacy in hematology. As a member of the Governmentol Affairs committee, she works with governmentol agencies to ensure that more programs are created for research in hematology and pediatric cancer.

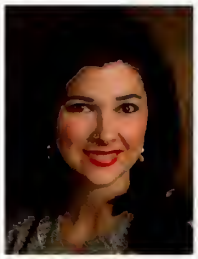
hurricane-related flooding in New York, New Jersey and Pennsylvania. She also contributed to a series of stories on Southern Baptists' Cooperative Program in 2009. A native of Laurel, Miss., Chandler holds a master's degree in journalism from Northwestern University in Evanston, Ill., and an undergraduate degree in journalism from The University of Southern Mississippi in Hattiesburg.

MICHAEL ROTH '87 has been appointed research professor at the Griffith Institute for Educational Research at Griffith University. Professor Roth previously has held the Lansdowne Chair in applied cognitive science at the University of Victoria, British Columbia. He investigates knowing and learning in science- and mathematics-related fields across the life span. He has a graduate degree in physics from Julius Maximilians University, Würzburg, Germany, and completed his PhD in the College of Science and Technology at The University of Southern Mississippi. He received an honorary doctorate from the University of Ioannina, Greece.

1990s



SHAREE BROUSSARD '92, '09 was awarded the Philip R. Forrest Professional Achievement Award by the Public Relations Council of Alabama. The award, named in honor of Phillip R. Forrest Jr., a 1942 alumnus of Spring Hill College, is the highest honor bestowed by the Public Relations Council of Alabama to a single practitioner. It is given to recognize individuals who are outstanding in the field of public relations.



SUSAN C. SLAUGHTER '92 has recently joined Hattiesburg Clinic as assistant administrator for service line development and operations. She has more than 15 years of experience in health care operations and development. Slaughter is a fellow in the American College of Healthcare Executives and a member of the Medical Group Management Association. She currently serves as campaign chair for the United Way of Southeast Mississippi and chair of the 2012 Art for Heart Gala.

JASON '93 and **ALISA BENNETT '93** of Bennett Contracting in Bradenton, Fla., are proud to be the Safety Award Winner and one of just 12 national finalists for *Equipment World Magazine*'s 2012 Contractor of the Year Award.

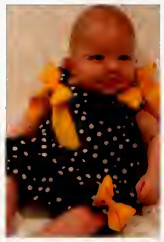
ERIC '96 and **AVA COOLEY '93, '97, '99** have relocated to Port Gibson from Atlanta, Ga., to serve as assistant pastors at Old Come and See Baptist Church.

BENJAMIN D. THORNTON '96 of Petal received an award from Mississippi College School of Law during its annual Law Day ceremony. Thornton was the recipient of the Robert E. Hauberg Award, given to a student with the highest average in Constitutional law. Thornton is the son of Janet and Tommy Thornton and is married to Silvia Thornton.

JOHN PALM '98, '01 has been promoted to risk management/ operations manager for Mesquite ISD in Mesquite, Texas.

GRAHAM JOHNSEN '98, a veteran of 12 years of coaching at the collegiate level, including stints as an assistant coach for the Mansfield Mountaineers, was named the 24th full-time head football coach in Mansfield University's 120-year football history. For the past two seasons, Johnsen served as the assistant head coach for the Mountaineers with responsibilities as the passing game, special teams, and strength and conditioning coordinator.

2000s



MICHAEL '00 and **JENNIFER TANNER '00** announce the birth of their daughter, Sophia Grace Tanner, born August 23, 2011. The Tanners reside in Broken Arrow, Okla.

CARLO CLESI '00 welcomed a son, Caleb Joseph, on June 29, 2011.

SARAH K. MATTHEWS '02, a family nurse practitioner, has joined the Pediatric Clinic, a service of Hattiesburg Clinic. Matthews is board certified by the American Academy of Nurse Practitioners.

THOMAS BROADUS '03, '11, an accomplished public speaker, national-level industry panelist and former member of the Public Relations and Communications department at Mississippi Public Broadcasting, has joined The Focus Group as director, interactive/new media. A native of Pascagoula, Thomas has extensive experience, practical knowledge and hands-on implementation expertise on the Internet, Web programming, new media and social media. He has a Master of Arts in mass communications as well

systems from The University of Southern Mississippi. Broadus and his wife, Sharon, have four children and are relocating back home on the Coast.

KEVIN ESTRADE '04, and his wife Amanda welcomed a son, James "Jimmy" Dominique Estrade, born April 3, 2012. Jimmy was also welcomed by grandmother **SUSAN ESTRADE '71**. The family is at home in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

CAMERON GODDARD '04 and wife Shelley announce the birth of a daughter, Sadi Jane Goddard, born February 22, 2012, at 7:18 p.m., weighing 8 lbs. 3 oz. and measuring 20 1/4 inches. Sadi was welcomed by big brothers, Taji and Dirk, and by big sister, Ella. Other family Golden Eagle alumni include great-grandfather, Joe M. Best Sr.; great-grandmother, Dolores Best; grandmother, Martie Best; grandfather, Joe Best Jr.; aunt, Susan Brown; and cousin, Andrew Brown.

CHAD CORNETT '04, '05 has been named president of Universal Industrial Assets, a 10-year-old industrial equipment company located in Baton Rouge, La.

RYAN SPEER '04 has joined the Special Collections department of the University Libraries at Virginia Tech in Blacksburg, Va., as digital collections archivist. In this role, he will develop digitization services, workflows and best practices for the library. Speer previously worked at the Georgia Tech Library and the Georgia Archives. He is a member of the Society of American Archivists.

WILLIAM "BILL" P. GARDNER '05 is now a managing partner at Noetic Outcomes Consulting. Gardner also serves as principal of Clear Light Consultancy. Bill has 35 years of experience coaching executives, improving team functioning, strengthening organizations, and creatively addressing problems and issues. His professional peers awarded him an "Excellence in Teaching Faculty Award" at The University of Southern Mississippi, designation as "Region II Trainer of the Year" by the American Society for Training and Development, and for four consecutive years, the organization he led was named one of the "Top 100 Training and Development Organizations" by *Training* magazine. Bill holds a BS degree in finance and economics from Mississippi State University, an MBA from The University of Southern Mississippi, and has extensive PhD work in the College of Education at the McCombs School of Business at the University of Texas in Austin.

AARON '05, '07 and **JESSICA WATKINS '05** announce the birth of their daughter, Emory Jean Watkins.

Joseph P. Bohanon '07

Appointed as the new president of Pawnee Nation College in Pawnee, Okla., in July 2011, Dr. Joseph P. Bohanon '07 is strengthening Native American education. The Choctaw and the Pawnee tribes are witnessing an educational adjoining here, as Bohanon, a son of the Choctaw tribe of Oklahoma, is honored by Pawnee Nation College as their new president. The Choctaw and the Pawnee have different histories, cultures, traditions and languages, but they do share much in common, as well, including the fact that they are both residing on the Great Plains.

The Oklahoma native had previously occupied a seminal position at the historic Bacone College in Muscogee, Okla., as the director of the American Indian Studies Program. Bohanon received his Ph.D. in higher education administration and familiarized himself with the culture and traditions of the Mississippi Choctaw, as well as other tribes in the area. "I am very proud to have attended Southern Miss and received such an academic foundation for my future," said Bohanon.

As retention problems, developmental coursework and graduation rates continue to plague the realm of higher education, Bohanon's leadership at Pawnee Nation College will play a major role in the future successes of the tribal college. As the new president of Pawnee Nation College, he is determined to "make a difference," to bring his commitment, his talents, his own and his tribe's illustrious history into play for an even better future at Pawnee Nation College. "Part of my mission at PNC is to instill the same love of learning to not only my family, but to my students as well." Other goals Bohanon holds for PNC include achieving accreditation status, and implementing fundraising activities "to promote additional opportunities for higher education to a wider geographical area."

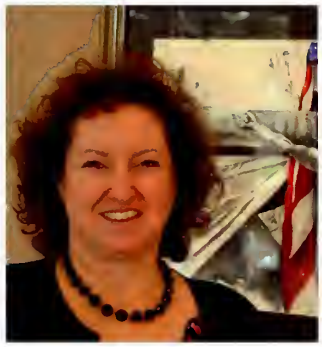
In his spare time, Bohanon enjoys spending time with family, mentoring college students, playing and coaching fast-pitch softball and participating in cultural activities such as dancing, singing and ceremonies. "A connection to tribal communities and participating in the Choctaw Nation of Oklahoma is vitally important to me," said Bohanon, who has participated in stomp dances, Choctaw social dancing, Northern traditional dancing, Southern straight dancing and gourd dancing. "I dance for those ancestors that were not allowed to fulfill their cultural right to be free and proud but were restricted by those that did not understand our traditions."

Gonzalez Appointed Conductor of Mississippi All-State Orchestra

Jorge Ivan González

Jorge Ivan González '01, '04, a teacher and conductor with the Hattiesburg Public School District strings program, has been appointed conductor of the 2012 Mississippi All-State Orchestra. González, a violinist, is a native of Monterrey, Mexico. He was the recipient of the "George and Hilda Magee" award; finalist of the "Canadian Music Competition Incorporated" in Toronto, Canada; winner of the 1999 Collegiate Artist Strings State Competition in Mississippi; finalist of the 2000 Divisional Competition in Richmond, Virginia; winner of the 2001 "William T. Gower Concerto Competition" at Southern Miss; and awarded the 2001 "New Young Artist" of the Victoria Bach Festival in Victoria, Texas. He collaborated in music festivals in Switzerland, Austria and the U.S. While a student at Southern Miss, he served as concertmaster of the Southern Mississippi Symphony Orchestra with soloists Jean-Pierre Rampal, Itzhak Perlman, Yo-Yo Ma, Edgar Meyer, Sir James Galway and Placido Domingo. González has given solo recitals in Mexico, Canada and in the U.S. González is assistant concertmaster of the Mobile, Ala., Symphony Orchestra and the Gulf Coast Symphony Orchestra; teacher and conductor of the HPSD high school and middle school string orchestras; serves as adjunct professor at Southern MIss as founder and conductor of the Southern Mississippi Youth Orchestra; conductor of the Philharmonic Orchestra at the Premier Orchestral Institute in Jackson; and artistic director of the FestivalSouth Orchestral and Chamber Music Academy.

Cassibry Honored as 2012 Instructor of the Year


Sandra Cassibry

Sandra Cassibry '88, visual arts instructor at the Perkinston campus of Mississippi Gulf Coast Community College, was recently honored as a 2012 Instructor of the Year during the Alumni/Foundation Centennial Spring Reception. Cassibry is well-known in Stone County for the beautiful mosaic walls she has assembled in Blaylock Park in Wiggins. A native of Long Beach, she has worked at the college for 12 years. A Gulf Coast alumna, she has a Bachelor of Arts degree in elementary education, with additional endorsements in art and reading from The University of Southern Mississippi. She also has two master's degrees, one in art and one in curriculum and instruction/administration, from William Carey University. Always ambitious, she is currently working on a collaborative art show with a coworker; completing the sixth and final mosaic in the city park; completing a second collaborative children's book, *The Watershed and Me A to Z*; publishing her own book, *Mississippi Angels*; working to complete the grant project for the Community Arts Center/Dairy Barn Renovation in Perkinston; and developing a 3D design/ceramics program for the Perkinston campus.

SARAH NEAL LEE '06 recently completed the qualifications to earn the Associate of the Society of Actuaries (ASA) designation. Lee is employed at Southern Farm Bureau, where she is involved in development, pricing, management of insurance products, and analyzing mortality/lapse experience studies. She is currently working toward completing the Fellow of the Society of Actuaries (FSA) designation and resides with her husband, Robert, in Florence.

MELISSA A. LADNER '09, speech-language pathologist at Popp's Ferry Elementary in the Biloxi Public School District, has been named the "2011-2012 Rookie Teacher of the Year." The award is given by the Biloxi Chamber of Commerce during their annual Excellence in Education Awards Ceremony. The pool of nominees was among all the first-year teachers in the private and public schools in the city of Biloxi.

LAUREN WILLIAMS '09, '10 has been named Administrator of the Pioneer Community of Choctaw in Ackerman.

2010s

JONATHON and **LYDIA SOLEY '10** welcomed twin girls, Ann Marie and Emilyn, on March 1, 2012. The family is at home in Ellisville.

Carter Named March of Dimes' March for Babies Event Chair

Andreo Carter

Dr. Andrea Carter '01, a Women's Pavilion of South Mississippi obstetrician and gynecologist, has been named chair of the 2012 March for Babies, the March of Dimes' largest annual event in the Hattiesburg area. A native of Seminary, she received a Bachelor of Science degree from The University of Southern Mississippi. She received her medical degree, as well as completed a residency in obstetrics and gynecology, from the University of Mississippi Medical Center. She is a member of the American College of Obstetrics and Gynecology, South Mississippi Medical Society and Mississippi State Medical Association. Carter lives in Hattiesburg with her husband, Lin, and her two daughters, Madeline and Noelle.

Boyett Wins Mississippi Historical Society Award

Boyett received the 2012 Franklin L. Riley Prize for her dissertation.

Patricia Buzard Boyett '88 has won the Mississippi Historical Society's award for best doctoral dissertation relating to Mississippi history. Boyett received the 2012 Franklin L. Riley Prize for her dissertation, *Race and Justice in Mississippi's Central Piney Woods, 1940-2010*. She presented her dissertation toward a PhD in history at The University of Southern Mississippi. The prize, which carries a $500 cash award, was announced in Columbus during the society's annual meeting. The Mississippi Historical Society was organized in Jackson on November 9, 1858, under the scholarly leadership of B.L.C. Wailes.

Howk Named to Top 10 Business Leaders Under 40

Wade Howk

Wade Howk '03 has been named to the South Mississippi's Top 10 Business Leaders Under 40. Howk, who serves as director of finance at Boomtown Casino in Biloxi, was selected from a pool of more than 40 nominees. The 20 honorees were inducted into the Roland Weeks Leadership Hall of Fame, which was established in 2003. The Hall of Fame was named after the former *Sun Herald* publisher, who has served the South Mississippi community for more than 40 years. Boomtown Casino boasts more than 1,100 slot machines and four dining experiences. Howk has been married to his wife Amy for seven years. They have two children, Carter and Grant. Howk is a Life Member. of the Southern Miss Alumni Association and serves on the Alumni Board.

TINA GAVIN '11 is currently completing her MEd degree from William Carey University in career and technical education.

ALEX STRAHAN '11 served as a national field representative for the 2012 Presidential election campaign for Rick Santorum. Prior to this, Strahan served as deputy director for the state of Mississippi's Presidential primary campaign, where three days before the election, Santorum was slated to rank third in state polls, but garnered first place among the Republican candidates.

CHAFONY POOLE '11 and husband Marquious announce the birth a son, Ayden, on April 14, 2011. Ayden was welcomed by sister, Shanavia, and brother, Marquise.

TASHA M. RILEY '11 has been promoted to director of Health Information Management at Hattiesburg Clinic. She has a Master of Public Health degree from The University of Southern Mississippi. She served as the clinic's director of credentialing for five years.

ALUMNI AUTHORS

To submit a book for inclusion in Alumni Authors, please email alumni@usm.edu with the title, author's name and year of graduation, cost, page count, publisher and year of publication, brief synopsis of the book, and an electronic copy of the cover in jpg, tif or pdf format at 300 dpi.

Dreaming of Dixie: How the South Was Created in American Popular Culture
Karen Cox
UNC Press, 2011
Purchase Price: $34.95
Copies available directly from UNC Press
Page Count: 224

From the late nineteenth century through World War II, popular culture portrayed the American South as a region ensconced in its antebellum past, draped in moonlight and magnolias, and represented by such Southern icons as the mammy, the belle, the chivalrous planter, white-columned mansions and even bolls of cotton. In *Dreaming of Dixie*, Karen Cox '97 shows that the chief purveyors of this constructed nostalgia for the Old South were outsiders of the region, especially advertising agencies, musicians, publishers, radio personalities, writers and filmmakers playing to consumers' anxiety about modernity by marketing the South as a region still dedicated to America's pastoral traditions. Cox examines how Southerners themselves embraced the imaginary romance of the region's past, particularly in the tourist trade as Southern states and cities sought to capitalize on popular perceptions by showcasing their Old South heritage. Only when television emerged as the most influential medium of popular culture did views of the South begin to change, as news coverage of the civil rights movement brought images of violence, protest and conflict in the South into people's living rooms. Until then, Cox argues, most Americans remained content with their romantic vision of Dixie. Cox is associate professor of history at the University of North Carolina at Charlotte.

A Passion for People: The Story of Mary Mahoney and Her Old French House Restaurant
Edward J. Lepoma
Quail Ridge Press, 1998
Purchase Price: $12.99
Copies available directly from Quail Ridge Press
Page Count: 149

Thirteen years after her death, Mary Mahoney's spirit is still remembered and cherished. *A Passion for People* is an intimate biography that traces her life from humble beginnings to flamboyant founder and hostess of Biloxi's famed Old French House Restaurant, an internationally acclaimed restaurant that is still a landmark on the Mississippi Gulf Coast. More than 50 photographs help to convey the story of this remarkable woman. Author Edward J. Lepoma '64 grew up in Biloxi, Miss., and now resides in Bay St. Louis, Miss.

Sunset at the Hotel Mira Mira: New and Selected Poems
Herb Guggenheim
Infinity Publishing, 2011
Purchase Price: $9.95
Copies available directly from www.amazon.com
Page Count: 80

Sunset at the Hotel Mira Mar: New and Selected Poems by Herb Guggenheim '83 is a collection of 28 easy-to-understand poems that, together, tell the story of Pete Sussman — poet, oft-thwarted lover, wage earner and philosopher king.

In Memoriam

CATHERINE B. HILL '33
of Brandon died April 8, 2012.

MARTHA "LENORA" B. HUNTER '39
of Columbia died February 28, 2012.

LOUISE K. PIERCE '39
of Baton Rouge, La., died March 16, 2012.

ANNIE R. SHACKELFORD '40
of Philadelphia died February 12, 2012.

SARAH J. COLEMAN '40
of Hattiesburg died February 23, 2012.

JIMMIE P. DALY '40
of Louisville died March 19, 2012.

ELEANOR W. HAMMERLING '42
of Tuscaloosa, Ala., died March 21, 2012.

FRANCES B. LOK '43
of Hattiesburg died February 3, 2012.

EUGENE M. KEEBLER '45, '62
of Mobile, Ala., died February 19, 2012.

MARIE M. VEAZEY '48
of Hattiesburg died March 10, 2012.

HENRY L. EZELLE JR. '50
of Universal City, Texas, died February 16, 2012.

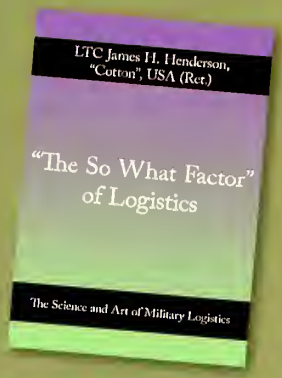
WINSTON E. DUCKWORTH '51
of Mount Olive died February 19, 2012.

RUTH C. ALFORD '51
of Shreveport, La., died April 16, 2012.

Though each poem can stand on its own, the collection as a whole is greater than the sum of its parts. By the end of the book, the reader will have the sense of having followed one man's life from innocence to experience. At times wickedly funny, at times poignant, *Sunset at the Hotel Mira Mar* is a book you won't want to miss. Guggenheim now resides in Rockville, Md.

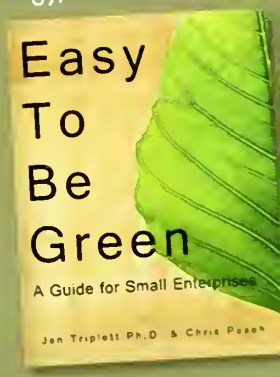
"The So What Factor" of Logistics: The Science and Art of Military Logistics
James H. Henderson, "Cotton", LTC, USA (Ret.)
AuthorHouse, 2011
Purchase Price: $18.95, E-book $10
Copies available directly from AuthorHouse
Page Count: 208

"The So What Factor" of Logistics: The Science and Art of Military Logistics is designed to provide the reader with a diverse look at the different logistical processes that make up the "Science and Art of Logistics," focusing on old as well as new doctrine and theories, and how to implement new ideas, procedures and technology that can enhance the overall logistical capability of any operations. Lieutenant Colonel James H. Henderson '77, '85, was commissioned a Second Lieutenant and assigned to the Quartermaster following completion of his master's degree from The University of Southern Mississippi in May 1985. He is also a graduate of the United States Army Command and General Staff College, the Quartermaster Officer Basic Course and Advanced Course. He served tours in Operations Desert Shield and Storm, as well as Operation Iraqi Freedom II (OIF II). He retired from active duty in August 2005 and is presently working as a consultant for the U.S. Army.



Easy to Be Green: A Guide for Small Enterprises
Chris Pasch
Amazon Whispernet, 2012
Purchase Price: E-book $2.99
Copies available directly from Amazon Digital Services
Page Count: 53

Easy to be Green is a concise, informative and cost-effective guide to help transform the smallest business into an environmentally proactive powerhouse. Veteran small business owners and operators, Jan Triplett and Chris Pasch '06, have created this collection of easy to follow tips and explanations designed to catapult your small or home-based business into a "greener" future. Learn energy efficiency, recycling, sustainability and environmentally friendly alternative techniques that won't break the bank. It also has a list of further resources by city, state and country to keep it easy to be green. Be sure to check out the back cover for green comments from Austin and national green leaders. *Easy to be Green* creates a down-to-earth framework for you to build upon. Pasch is a project manager with Caltex Efficient Energy, an efficient lighting and green initiatives company. He is a certified Building Performance Institute inspector and has more than five years of experience planning, implementing and completing energy-efficient projects.



J. G. ODOM JR. '52
of Shalimar, Fla., died April 6, 2012.

ABIATHAR BISHOP '53
of Pittsburgh, Pa., died March 24, 2012.

JERI S. MITCHELL '54
of Altamonte Springs, Fla., died March 13, 2012.

JACK R. SPARACINO '55
of Belle Vernon, Pa., died February 25, 2012.

MILLAM S. COTTON '56
of Madison died February 2, 2012.

WILLIAM D. MITCHELL JR. '57
of Baton Rouge, La., died March 17, 2012.

CHARLES L. TODARO '57
of Biloxi died April 20, 2012.

HARRY H. ANDERSON '58
of Phoenix, Ariz., died March 4, 2012.

ARLAN E. SCARBROUGH '58
of Pensacola, Fla., died March 25, 2012.

KEITH M. TINGLE '58, '61
of Carthage died April 4, 2012.

GRACE JO FARRIS '59
of Metairie, La., died February 18, 2012.

MYRL G. BALL '59
of Vienna, Va., died March 31, 2012.

JOSEPH H. SCHAUB '59
of Madison died April 8, 2012.

FRANK D. D'ANTONI '60
of Natchez died February 25, 2012.

STEVEN J. PAPPAS '61
of Little Rock, Ark., died April 4, 2012.

JANIE V. HARRIS '62, '75
of Hattiesburg died April 15, 2012.

BETTY R. ODUM '63
of Prentiss died February 4, 2012.

RALPH EDWARDS JR. '63
of Jackson died April 16, 2012.

ALICE FLOYD BISHOP '64
of Hattiesburg died April 5, 2012.

DR. JUDY A. DRISKELL '65
of Lincoln, Neb., died February 21, 2012.

BARRY L. KELLY '65
of Jackson died April 10, 2012.

JIM H. BUTLER '66
of Gulfport died January 31, 2012.

JOHN R. HARRIS II '67, '78
of Biloxi died March 8, 2012.

JIMMY N. STEWART '67
of Clinton died April 8, 2012.

WALTER W. BAUCUM '69, '74
of Gooding, Ind., died February 11, 2012.

RALPH GREMILLION '69
of Thibodaux, La., died March 6, 2012.

MALCOLM J. GRAHAM III '71
of Ormond Beach, Fla., died March 16, 2012.

MARY L. LIERMAN '74
of Houston, Texas, died April 20, 2012.

JOHN W. CAPERS '75
of Meridian died March 7, 2012.

LOREN R. LANE '75, '76
of Sturgis, Mich., died March 28, 2012.

EUGENIA M. BRYANT '75
of Natchez died March 26, 2012.

ROBERT "BOBBY" V. HINES '77
of Florence died February 22, 2012.

MARK MCDUFF '77, '88
of Pascagoula died March 8, 2012.

GARY D. LEE '78
of Petal died February 13, 2012.

MARCELLA C. BIRTHA '78
of Altadena, Calif., died March 22, 2012.

DAVID A. MAPP '79
of Ridgeland died February 24, 2012.

MARY THERRELL '80
of Gulfport died March 20, 2012.

JANET RAMSTAD '81
of Gautier died February 11, 2012.

MELYNDA G. EASTERLING '83
of Hattiesburg died March 5, 2012.

THERESA A. TRYBALSKI '85
of Columbia, Tenn., died February 9, 2012.

BONNIE ROGERS '85
of Mobile, Ala., died March 8, 2012.

TOMMY J. SPILLMAN JR. '85
of Zachary, La., died April 19, 2012.

NANCY M. FOX '87
of Pearl died February 15, 2012.

LINDA VAN METRE WALTERS '90
of Palmetto, Fla., died January 29, 2012.

STEPHEN DICKERSON '90
of Sonoma, Calif., died March 14, 2012.

APRIL C. MCRANEY '90
of McComb died April 19, 2012.

ROBERT W. NEWMAN '91
of Gulfport died April 5, 2012.

KATHERINE F. FARISH '91
of Madison died April 17, 2012.

LEWIS C. GADDIS '92
of Duson, La., died February 27, 2012.

KRISTIN J. ALVAREZ '94, '98
of Redlands, Calif., died January 26, 2012.

JOHN W. TURNER JR. '99, '01
of Pearl died March 23, 2012.

LORAINE F. WILLIAMS '01
of Lynn Haven, Fla., died March, 9, 2012.

ROBERT G. RECORD JR. '05
of Gonzales, La., died February 27, 2012.

JAMES G. COURVILLE '05
of Hattiesburg died April 18, 2012.

LUCILLE L. NOBLES
of Katy, Texas, died March 25, 2012.

IN MEMORIAM

H. LAMAR GILLESPIE
CLASS OF 1950

"They will be called oaks of righteousness, a planting of the Lord for the display of his splendor."
– ISAIAH 61:3

Southern Miss Alumni Are Building Better Business

The University of Southern Mississippi congratulates our alumni who have been selected in this year's Top 40 Under 40

Tory Bass
Dave Estorge
Jan Farve
John Graham
Andre Heath
Christopher Hinton
Wade Howk
Bradley Jones
Christopher McDonald
Anita Wright

SOUTHERN MISS TRiViA

Answers below are to questions asked on Page 17.

1. Caach Thad "Pie" Vann (1958 and 1962)
2. The SGA was farmed on October 8, 1912, and adopted the motta, "Every man a gentleman and every waman a lady."
3. 1962
4. Southern Miss Opera Theatre's praduction af Die Fledermaus

How did you score?

C.A.R.D.

Current Alumni Retail Discounts

This listing contains current participants in The University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association's C.A.R.D. Program. By presenting either your Southern Miss Alumni Association annual dues membership card or your Life Membership card, you will receive the discount noted by each participant. The program is designed to bring added value to your membership in the Alumni Association and to thank you for your support of Southern Miss.

Aaron's Sales and Lease	*50% discount on first month's payment on any new lease agreement*
Anderson's Rug Market	*10% discount on any rug purchase*
Ashley's Sporting Goods	*10% discount on total purchases (same restrictions apply)*
Bourne Brothers Printing	*10% discount on any service*
Brownstone's LLC	*10% discount on entrees*
Caliente Grille	*10% off of total purchase*
Chesterfield's*	*10% off entrée*
Classic Concepts/ACE Home Center	*10% discount on purchases or rentals*
Comfort Inn-The Lodge *	*10% off rack rate*
Comfort Suites *	*10% off rack rate*
Command Spanish, Inc	*20% discount on online language courses at commandspanishonline.com when applying USMAA20 promotional code*
Expectations	*15% discount on total purchase (does not apply to furniture)*
Firehouse Subs	*Free drink with purchase of sandwich*
The First, A Natl. Banking Assoc.	*$200 discount on closing costs on mortgage loans*
Garfields*	*10% off entrée*
Golden Eagle Storage	*5% discount on rental*
Grand Bank	*$100 discount on mortgage loan closing costs*
Hattiesburg Zoo	*$1 off admission*
Heritage Vision Center	*10% discount on all eyeglasses and sunglasses for regular members and 20% discount for Life Members*
Holiday Inn	*10% off rack rate*
Holiday Inn Express, Lucedale	*15% off standard room rate*
Hopson Law Firm, PLLC	*Free initial consultation on any contingency fee case, 10% discount on consultation fee on non-contingency cases*
J and L Sales	*10% discount on any purchase*
King Photography	*10% discount on photography, excluding senior portraits*
Kitchen Table	*10% discount on cooking classes*
Lance Computer Systems	*20% discount on normal labor charges*
Leatha's Bar-B-Que Inn	*10% discount on all purchases*
McLeod & Associates, P.A.	*10% discount on estate planning, business entity formation and other legal services*
Mike's Tire and Wheel	*10% discount on all sales*
Neblett's Frame Outlet	*10% discount on purchases*
Newk's Express Café	*10% discount on purchases, excluding alcohol*
Oak Grove Plaza Package Store	*10% discount on purchases*
Oak Grove Rental	*10% discount on rental items / not valid with other offer*
O'Charley's	*10% discount on all purchases, excluding alcohol*
Owen's Business Machines	*10% discount on selected items*
Parris Jewelers	*10% discount on all items*
Pine Burr Country Club	*$5 off one 18-hole round of golf*
Priceless Rent-a-Car	*10% discount on rental cars, trucks and passenger vans*
Prime Mortgage, Inc.	*$250 closing cost discount*
Signs First *	*15% discount on Southern Miss-related signs*
Simmons Furniture	*10% discount on all items*
The Sleep Number Store by Select Comfort	*Free pillow when you find your Sleep Number setting*
Sonic Drive Inn on Hwy 11	*Free 20 oz. drink or slush with purchase of #1 or #2 burger*
Southern Interiors	*5% discount on flooring*
Southern Oaks Catering	*10% discount on takeout orders (weddings excluded)*
Southern Oaks Florist	*15% discount on funeral, hospital and home arrangements (weddings excluded)*
Southern Oaks House and Gardens	*20% discount on facility and room rentals*
Tall Pines Farm	*10% discount on gift baskets and catering*
Tranquility Day Spa	*10% member discount, 15% discount for Life Members on all services, not valid with other discounts*
University Florist	*10% discount on all purchases (excluding holiday's and wire outs)*
USO Hattiesburg	*Free collector's dog tag*
Villie's Subs	*$1 off order of six-inch sandwich, side order and large drink* *$1 off game day party subs*

^ All discounts subject to change or termination without prior notice. Please verify discount with provider before making purchase. *Hattiesburg locations only.

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Did you KNOW?

Did you know that the Southern Miss Alumni Association is now listed in the iPhone and Android app called Vidappe, which alerts members of nearby stores' discounts? This free app organizes your day-to-day discounts that can be redeemed simply by flashing your Southern Miss membership card. Vidappe allows you to choose a geographic region (Mississippi) and then a specific membership program (University of Southern Mississippi Alumni Association) and can notify you of locations within both driving and walking distances. For more information contact the Southern Miss Alumni Association at 601.266.5013 or alumni@usm.edu.

GO
Eagles
SMTTT

Southern Scenes

Alumnus Speaks to Southern Miss Graduates "Be True to Yourself"

Just one day after he helped break ground on a new College of Business building to be named in his honor, University of Southern Mississippi alumnus Charles "Chuck" Scianna was back on the Hattiesburg campus May 11 to give the spring commencement address.

Scianna earned his bachelor's degree from Southern Miss in 1975 and is the president of Sim-Tex, L.P. in Waller, Texas. Last year he committed $5 million to the project, followed by a pledge to match contributions to the building campaign up to $1 million. His gift is the largest one-time gift to the USM Foundation by an alumnus.

Scianna, who gave commencement addresses at two ceremonies at Reed Green Coliseum, had a straightforward message to the graduates. "Be true to yourself. Don't try to fake it," he said. "And be true to your school. Don't forget where you came from."

The Bay St. Louis, Miss., native also advised graduates to hold fast to a set of strong, moral values in the face of opportunities to go astray. "There will be a lot of temptations out there for you to compromise your morals and your integrity, but you've got to stay true to your values and morals," he said.

He credited Southern Miss for helping him succeed in life and in business and putting him in a position to help fund the construction of the 93,000-square-foot facility for the College of Business. The building will sit adjacent to the Trent Lott National Center for Excellence in Economic Development and Entrepreneurship, facing U.S. 49 South.

"Southern Miss prepared me to accomplish what I've done in life. It's the reason I'm here today to speak to these graduates," he said.

Asked how she felt about graduating, Haley Long of Russellville, Ala. exclaimed "Hallelujah!" The communication major hopes to find a job in business or medical administration.

Like Scianna, Long believes Southern Miss has prepared her to succeed in life, and shares his passion for her alma mater. "Going to school here prepared me for the future by challenging me to be my best, both inside and outside the classroom," Long said. "And it's definitely a place to call home."

Photo By Kelly Dunn

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PERIODICAL

Share Your Family's Golden Eagle Story...

Pictured from left: Bobbie Marshall '62, Mickey Marshall '83, Myers Marshall '12, Bob Marshall '88, Mike Marshall '82 and Earl Marshall '58.

"Southern Miss has been an important part of our lives for more than 55 years. We are happy that all three of our sons and our oldest grandson also wanted to be Golden Eagles. When we retired, we moved to Hattiesburg in order to be near our beloved University."

—Earl Marshall, '58

DID YOU KNOW?

- The Alumni Association plays a key role in recruiting the children and grandchildren of Southern Miss alumni.
- The Alumni Association annually awards a number of scholarships to incoming freshman and current students who are a part of The Legacy, the student Alumni Association.
- Alumni support is important to the recruiting process.

If you know an outstanding student we should contact, please visit SouthernMissAlumni.com and click on the "Recommend a Student" link.